

BLESS THE COMMUNITY - TAKING IT TO THE STREET

' "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. ' Matthew 5:13 NLT



Michigan District  
Church of the Nazarene

# 2024 DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

INDIAN LAKE NAZARENE CAMP

JULY 14-15, 2024

# Section

# 1

General Information



2024

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## Greetings from Pastor Brad Dyrness

Welcome to the Michigan District Church of the Nazarene District Assembly and Family Camp.

I love it when our people gather to share what God is doing in our midst. In our district assembly we will hear stories of spiritual victories and highlights for our churches by their pastors. Behind those stories also lies challenges and difficulties that are a part of our journey as well. Scriptures tells us to: “rejoice with those who rejoice *and* mourn with those who mourn.” Romans 12:15

I believe the Michigan District is close and has a family atmosphere partially because we gather at this sacred place – Indian Lake Nazarene Camp. The commitment to own and maintain a camp is becoming more unique in today’s culture. But these 285 acres have become a sacred place for the last 98 years. It’s one reason we are connected. We have an address, a place that we call home and many lives have been inspired in our moments here. The spiritual memories here of camp meetings, ordination services, camp for our children, retreats and so much more are a spiritual binding that holds us together.

District Assembly is a part of our commitment to accountability – of our ministries, our stewardship, our relationships and much more. Lean in a hear the stories of transformation and spiritual growth. Hear what God is doing among us, and around the world. Celebrate with those who have served faithfully and are entering into a new season. Prayerfully rejoice with those who have completed the requirements for ordination, look confidently to the future with those who receive their first ministers license and those who are exploring a call to ministry as well.

None of that can happen without the steadfast commitment of our laity. Their stewardship of their time, talent and treasure is an investment in the Kingdom of God that Jesus invited us to both receive and share.

Welcome Dr. Carla and Chuck Sunberg as our Jurisdictional General Superintendent. They bring a wealth of experience and inspiration to our time together. Chuck even spent time here as a kid, coming to camps at Indian Lake. Dr. Greg and Tammy Chenoweth and the ONU team will share the ONU story. There are many other things happening you won’t want to miss. Then Monday Night, Rev Jeremiah Bolich and our own MINaz Worship Team will minister to us in Family Camp. There is something for everyone!

Deb and I are so glad you’re here and we look forward to hanging out!

pbd  
(pastor Brad)



# MICHIGAN DISTRICT

**Rev. Brad Dymess**

## DS Pastor's Report

### Michigan District Supplemental Combined Report

|   |              |  |       |
|---|--------------|--|-------|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES          | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 35    |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES          | Number of New Believers                  | 581   |
| Participation in Pension & Benefits     | YES          | Number of Baptisms                       | 310   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES          | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 267   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES          | Membership Total                         | 6,829 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$14,484,784 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES   |

### Michigan District Statistical Report

|                | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Membership     | 9,001  | 8,873  | 8,648  | 8,511  | 8,162  | 7,949  | 7,844  | 7,636  | 7,442  | 6,829  |
| SS Enrollment  | 15,173 | 15,202 | 16,329 | 22,555 | 16,062 | 17,009 | 11,315 | 12,791 | 11,629 | 15,682 |
| SS Average     | 6,855  | 6,663  | 6,731  | 6,485  | 6,622  | 6,700  | 6,031  | 4,947  | 5,754  | 5,686  |
| Worship Avg.   | 8,410  | 8,262  | 8,203  | 7,874  | 7,658  | 7,589  | 6,736  | 6,315  | 7,767  | 9,161  |
| Conversions    | 611    | 612    | 577    | 577    | 448    |        | 270    | 402    | 440    | 581    |
| Baptisms       | 242    | 270    | 240    | 298    | 241    |        | 176    | 212    | 216    | 310    |
| New Nazarenes  | 314    | 264    | 262    | 311    | 349    | 351    | 190    | 185    | 312    | 267    |
| Org. Churches  | 73     | 74     | 74     | 70     | 68     | 68     | 65     | 67     | 65     | 65     |
| Org. This Year | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 0      | 0      | 2      | 1      | 0      | 0      |
| Church Plants  | 4      | 7      | 8      | 1      | 1      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      |

### Michigan District Financial Report

|                     |                |                |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                     | <u>2022-23</u> | <u>2023-24</u> |
| Total Church Income | \$13,670,021   | \$14,484,784   |

### Total Given to District, Regional and Global Interests

*(Funding the Mission as of 6-26-24)*

|                            |                         |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                            | <u>Given in 2022-23</u> | <u>Given in 2023-24</u> |
| District                   | \$661,042               | \$684,562               |
| Olivet Nazarene University | \$267,287               | \$268,190               |
| NBUSA                      | \$269,084               | \$274,694               |
| World Evangelism Fund      | \$661,328               | \$669,234               |

# Michigan District Missional Areas

## NORTHEAST MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Justin Hayes (justin@midlandnaz.org)**

Churches: Alma, Bay City Faith, Bay City First, Midland Bethel, Midland Naz, Midland Nease Memorial, Mount Pleasant Faith Indian, Mount Pleasant First, New Lothrop, Saginaw First, Saginaw Journey of Grace, Saginaw Swan Valley, Saginaw Valley, St. Louis Restoration 58:12, Sumner Center

## NORTHWEST MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Tyler Hubbell (tyler@spartanaz.org)**

Churches: (Byron Center) High Pointe Community, Ebenezer, Elmdale, Grand Haven, Grand Rapids Clyde Park, Grand Rapids International Fellowship, Grand Rapids Northeast Community, Grand Rapids West International, Greenville, Hastings, Holland New Life, Lowell, Muskegon Breakwater, Muskegon Connection Point, Sparta

## SOUTHEAST MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Gerhard Weigelt (gerhard@masonnaz.org)**

Churches: Albion, Charlotte New Faith, Eaton Rapids, Hillsdale, Jackson First, Jackson Found, Mason First, Spring Arbor

## SOUTHWEST MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Rob Lewis (rwlewis1985@gmail.com)**

Churches: Battle Creek First, Buchanan, Coldwater, Corey, Kalamazoo South Side, Nashville, Portage Cross Community, Sturgis, Three Rivers, Vicksburg Chapman Memorial, White Pigeon Lighthouse

## CAPITAL MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Jesi Myers (jmyers@southnaz.org)**

Churches: Corunna, Durand, Grand Ledge, Holt, Lansing First, Lansing International, Lansing South, Lansing Woodview, Okemos, Owosso City, Owosso First, Perry, Portland, St. Johns, Williamston

# Section 2

Assembly Organization & Elections  
& Constitutional Amendments



2024

# Electronic Ballot

<https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/DBcpX>

Please register at the Information Booth in the Tabernacle  
Sunday, July 14th—4:00—5:30 PM or  
Monday, July 15th—8:00—9:00 AM

Please use the  
Voter ID and Voter Key  
provided on the back of your nametag that you will receive  
at registration.

**Voting hours:**  
**Sunday, July 14, 2024 after Ordination**  
**through**  
**Monday, July 15, 2024 at 11:30 AM**



## Board of Tellers

The board of tellers will be called upon in the event of a tie that may occur as a result of the electronic vote.

Judy Bellaire  
Marsha DeHollander  
Janet Doezema  
Jeff Finch  
Tom Gibbons  
Kim Graham  
Marie Holden  
Miquette Jackson  
Stan Johnson  
Richard Merritt  
Laura O'Connor  
Bryan Osbo  
Stephanie Pratt  
Jim Schragg  
Sheryl Swift  
Carol Van Slyke  
Ted Webster

# Nominee Profiles

## DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD

### District Advisory Board—Clergy Vote for 2 Three-year term; expires 2027



Rev. Sarah Bawks  
PERRY  
Pastor to Families with Children



Rev. Aaron Gregory  
CONNECTION POINT  
Lead Pastor/Incumbent



Rev. James Haldane  
EATON RAPIDS  
Lead Pastor



Rev. Chris Heydenburg  
FOUND  
Lead Pastor

## CREDENTIALS BOARD

### Ministerial Credentials Board Vote for 2 Four-year term; expires 2028



Rev. Nathan Gray  
DURAND  
Lead Pastor/Incumbent



Rev. Hannah Jones-Nelson  
LANSING SOUTH  
Youth Pastor/District NYI President



Rev. Travis Myers  
LANSING SOUTH  
Lead Pastor



Rev. Danny Quanstrom  
HASTINGS  
Lead Pastor/Incumbent

### District Advisory Board—Lay Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2027



Jim Couchenour  
EATON RAPIDS  
Board Member



Joseph Ifaturoti  
GRIF  
Board Member/Incumbent

## STUDIES BOARD

### Ministerial Studies Board—Clergy Vote for 1 Four-year term; expires 2028



Rev. Jimmy Guffey  
PORTLAND  
Lead Pastor/Incumbent



Rev. Tracy Collier  
JAXNAZ  
Groups Pastor

# Nominee Profiles

## ILNC CAMP BOARD

**ILNC Camp Board—Clergy  
Non-leaseholder  
Vote for 2  
Three-year term; expires 2027**



Rev. Nathan Colburn  
THREE RIVERS  
Youth Pastor



Rev. Ron Heiler  
GRAND HAVEN  
Lead Pastor



Pastor Jenna Ralston  
MASON FIRST  
Children's Pastor



Pastor Ashley Robbins  
CHAPNAZ  
Co-Lead Pastor

**ILNC Camp Board—Clergy  
Leaseholder  
Vote for 1  
Three-year term; expires 2027**



Rev. Bobby Garza  
LANSING SOUTH  
Incumbent



Rev. Rob Lash  
CHAPNAZ  
Associate Pastor

**ILNC Camp Board—Lay  
Leaseholder  
Vote for 1  
Three-year term; expires 2027**



Steve Boyce  
CHAPNAZ  
Master Electrician



Tony Myers  
SPARTA  
Police Officer

# Nominee Profiles

## PROPERTIES

**Properties Board—Clergy  
Vote for 2  
Three-year term; expires 2027**



**Pastor Chris Bristow**  
JAX NAZ  
Administrative Pastor



**Rev. Jon Croft**  
MT. PLEASANT FIRST  
Lead Pastor



**Rev. Bob Evans**  
GRIF  
Active Retired Pastor



**Rev. Chris Heydenburg**  
FOUND  
Lead Pastor

## ONU

**ONU Board of Trustees—Lay  
Vote for 1  
Three-year term; expires 2027**



**Steve Lyle**  
CROSS COMMUNITY  
Incumbent



**Kim Meiste**  
GRIF  
Worship Arts

## PROPERTIES

**Properties Board—Lay  
Vote for 1  
Three-year term; expires 2027**



**Ken McNulty**  
LANSING SOUTH  
Incumbent



**Don Pierce**  
MASON FIRST  
Incumbent

# Nominee Profiles

## NDI COUNCIL

### **NDI/SDMI Council—Clergy Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2027**



**Rev. Jesse Briles**  
LANSING FIRST  
Lead Pastor



**Rev. Jimmy Guffey**  
PORTLAND  
Lead Pastor



**Rev. PJ Horn**  
COREY  
Lead Pastor



**Rev. Nathan Workman**  
RESTORATION 58:12  
Co-Lead Pastor

### **NDI/SDMI Council—Lay Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2027**



**John (Freddy) Shoffstall**  
LANSING SOUTH  
Teacher/Board Member



**Amy Wagner**  
THREE RIVERS  
Librarian/SS Teacher

# Constitutional Amendment

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BY THE  
THIRTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Adopted at Indianapolis, Indiana, USA  
June 2023

The Michigan District shall consider concurrence or non-concurrence (by two-thirds vote of district assembly delegates) with action of the Thirtieth General Assembly held in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, 12-15 June 2023, amending the constitution of the Church of the Nazarene.

**NOTE: New text is underlined; brackets [ ] indicate text to be deleted.**

RESOLVED that *Manual* paragraph 15, Article of Faith XV, be amended as follows:

## XV. Second Coming of Christ

**15.** We believe that at the end of the age the Lord Jesus Christ will be revealed as Lord of all. He will come again in glory and power to establish fully the kingdom of God that He proclaimed and initiated in His life and ministry. As the Triune God first created heaven and earth, God will renew them in the new creation where He will dwell eternally with His redeemed people. [; that w]We who are alive at His coming shall not precede them that are asleep in Christ Jesus; but [that], if we are abiding in Him, we shall be caught up with the risen saints to meet the Lord in the air, so that we shall ever be with the Lord. In that day, God, who in the cross triumphed over all evil powers, will complete His loving purposes for creation. There will be no more suffering, injustice, or death, and God will wipe away every tear.

### REASONS:

We believe that at the end of the age the Lord Jesus Christ will be revealed as Lord of all. God is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ who is lord of all creation. We believe this has been and is forever true, but not fully acknowledged in the present age. In the day of His appearing, this will be fully known to all creation.

- Philippians 2:5-11
- I Corinthians 13:12-13
- Matthew 24
- I Thessalonians 4:16-17

*He will come again in glory and power to establish fully the kingdom of God that he proclaimed and initiated in his life and ministry.*

The already/not-yet Kingdom has come in Christ Jesus and will be fully realized in the final day.

- Luke 4:18-21
- I Corinthians 15:24-25, 28
- Matthew 6:9-13
- Deuteronomy 10:17

# Constitutional Amendment

*As the Triune God first created heaven and earth, God will renew them in the new creation where He will dwell eternally with His redeemed people.*

As God created the universe, the whole Creation will be renewed, restored, re-created in the final day in accord with the will and purposes of God.

- Revelation 21:1-8
- Romans 8:18-22
- Isaiah 65:17-25
- Isaiah 66:22-23
- Acts 3:21
- II Peter 3:7-13
- II Corinthians 5:17

*In that day, God, who in the cross triumphed over all evil powers, will complete His loving purposes for creation.*

Christ Jesus, the Christus Victor, defeated all the powers of sin and death for all time. The loving purposes of God will be consummated in His return.

- Isaiah 11:1-9
- Matthew 28:18
- Philippians 1:6
- Revelation 12:10-12

*There will be no more suffering, injustice, or death, and God will wipe away every tear.*

- Revelation 21:1-8

# Section 3

District Board & Committee Reports



2024

# Nominating Committee

## 4. Nominations

The Michigan District Nominating Committee, Rev. Brad Dyrness (chairman), Rebecca Graham (secretary), Marlene Webster, Ashley Robbins, TJ Tozer, Travis Myers, Deidre Marks, Richelle Martzke met at the District office on April 29. Chairman Dyrness called the meeting to order and opened in prayer.

The following is recommended:

1. That all elections be by plurality vote, and that all elections take place on one ballot, with the exception of those that require a separate ballot.
2. That Advisory Board members be elected to three-year terms, as provided by the *Manual* (paragraph 224).
3. That four ministerial and four lay members of the Advisory Board be elected as provided by the *Manual* (paragraph 224).
4. That no incumbent may be re-nominated for the Advisory Board if he/she will have served for eight consecutive years at the time of the election. Any non-incumbent may be nominated.
5. That the Nominating Committee will present at least four times the number of nominees as the number to be elected in each category on the regular ballot in order to have at least twice the number of nominees as the number elected on the ballot. Those receiving the most votes from the Nominating Committee will be presented on the ballot.
6. That nominees shall be chosen from churches who display a consistent pattern of giving to Eternal Investment Funds.
7. That the nominating ballot will reflect the intention to achieve a 50% balance of leaseholders and non-leaseholders on the ILNC board. In addition, the lay and clergy representation must be equal (50% each).
8. Each nominee is to be contacted, *and the nomination will be ratified upon acceptance of the nominee.*
9. Ballots will be prepared for district offices and a list of the names on these ballots, with their church membership, photo and bio shall be included in the district assembly handbook.
10. A draft ballot will be sent to delegates prior to assembly.
11. Ballots will be accepted as valid if the number of votes is equal to or less than the number of positions that are to be elected.
12. That the following be nominated:

District Advisory Board (three-year term; expires 2027; Clergy, elect two)

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. James Haldane    | Rev. Sarah Bawks   |
| Rev. Chris Heydenburg | Rev. Aaron Gregory |

District Advisory Board (three-year term; expires 2027; Lay, elect one)

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Jim Couchenour | Joseph Ifaturoti |
|----------------|------------------|

District Ministerial Credentials Board (four-year term; expires 2028; Clergy, elect two)

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Rev. Nate Gray       | Rev. Hannah Jones-Nelson |
| Rev. Danny Quanstrom | Rev. Travis Myers        |

District Ministerial Studies Board (four-year term; expires 2028; Clergy, elect one)

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. Jimmy Guffey | Rev. Tracy Collier |
|-------------------|--------------------|

ILNC Camp Board (three-year term; expires 2027; Clergy, Non-Lease Holder, elect two)

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Pastor Ashley Robbins | Rev. Nathan Colburn  |
| Rev. Ron Heiler       | Pastor Jenna Ralston |

ILNC Camp Board (three-year term; expires 2027; Clergy, Lease Holder, elect one)

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Rev. Bobby Garza | Rev. Rob Lash |
|------------------|---------------|

## Nominating Committee Continued

ILNC Camp Board (three-year term; expires 2027; Lay, Lease Holder, elect one)

Steve Boyce

Tony Myers

Olivet Nazarene University Trustee (three-year term; expires 2027; Lay, elect one)

Steve Lyle

Kimberly Meiste

Properties Board (three-year term; expires 2027; Lay, elect one)

Ken McNulty

Don Pierce

Properties Board (three-year term, expires 2027; Clergy, elect two)

Rev. Bob Evans

Rev. Jon Croft

Rev. Chris Heydenburg

Pastor Chris Bristow

*Respectfully submitted,*

REV. BRAD DYRNESS, *Chairman*

REV. REBECCA L. GRAHAM, *Secretary*

## Ministerial Studies Board

### 2023-24 Annual Report

Graduated from the course of study in 2023-24

A. From district elder's course of study: Sam Evans, Michael Garza, Alexandra McMath, Jenna Ralston, Bikram Ranapheli, Justin Schultz

We recommend the following persons be:

A. Placed/continued in level one, elder's course of study: Titus Balkuty, Meg Holton, Tracey Saunders, James Patrick Schwab

B. Placed/continued in level two, elder's course of study: John Ashby Jr., Daniel Kasaggoma, Charissa Langstaff, Corey Lewis, Jessica Oswald, Ashley Robbins, Joshua Skinner, Jonathan Verastegui

C. Placed/continued in level three, elder's course of study: Teri Beadle, Holly Hazekamp, Faith Miller, Jesse Sibert, Bart Simpson

D. Placed/continued in level four, elder's course of study: Gabe Beelen, Zachariah Caruth, Tim Freed, Brad Julien, Sarah Klassen, Anna Murphy

E. Placed/continued in level four, deacon's course of study: Christina Bristow, Hanna George

*Respectfully submitted,*

REV. JIMMY GUFFEY, *Chairman*

REV. GERHARD F. WEIGELT, *Secretary*

# Ministerial Credentials Board

## Partial Report No. 1

### **We recommend that the following transfers be received:**

Edwin O'Connor from NE Indiana  
Brandon E. Hird from Chicago Central  
Timothy D. Johnson from Indianapolis  
Gloria D. Johnson from Indianapolis  
Taylor M. White from E. Tennessee  
D. Joseph Young from SW Ohio  
Cheryl R. Young from SW Ohio

### **We recommend that the following transfers be granted:**

David R. Becker to Chicago Central  
Tanner H. Griffin to Chicago Central  
Austin P. Hill to NW Ohio  
Kari A. Klein to N. Carolina  
Kenneth R. Sabotka to N. Michigan

### **We recommend the following be removed from the roll of ordained ministers, not by our desire but by having deceased:**

Richard G. Forsythe  
Almon G. Fulton  
Clyde W. Loew  
Thomas A. Luttrell

### **We recommend retirement status be granted to:**

David M. Downs  
John D. Obrecht  
Todd H. Compton

### **We recommend that the following first time District licenses be granted to the following:**

Daniel Kasaggoma  
Charissa B. Langstaff  
Jenna G. Ralston  
Larry Bart Simpson

### **We recommend the following to the election of Elder's Orders:**

Jacob Edward Abbey-Johnson  
Samuel Stuart Evans  
Robert Dale Garza, Jr.  
Alexandra Kim McMath  
Justin David Schultz

Respectfully Submitted,

REV. BRADLEY DYRNESS, Chairman

REV. REBECCA GRAHAM, Secretary

# Ministerial Credentials Board

## Partial Report No. 2

### We recommend the following for renewal of District Minister's License:

|                     |                          |                              |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| John T. Ashby Jr.   | Thomas A. Dixon          | Corey D. Lewis               |
| Titus S. Balkuty    | Timothy Freed            | Faith Miller                 |
| Amy K. Barber       | Michael Steven Garza Jr. | Anna J. Murphy               |
| Elizabeth R. Baxter | Hanna E. George          | Bikram Ranapheli             |
| Teri L. Beadle      | Holly J. Hazekamp        | Ashley Robbins               |
| Gabriel Beelen      | Andrew K. Jones          | Jesse Sibert                 |
| Christina Bristow   | Bradley K. Julien        | Madison Laura Shae Valentine |
| Zachariah Caruth    | Sarah L. Klassen         | Jonathan Verastegui          |

We report on the following who did not apply: Jessica Oswald

The following district license has not been renewed: Dawn M. McPeek

We report the following name change: Jacob Edward Johnson to Jacob Edward Abbey-Johnson

The following credentials have been filed: Tim Deshaw

The following credentials have been released: Mark Quinn

The Credentials board submitted one request for removal of the divorce barrier for elder's orders to the Board of General Superintendents.

We recommend the evangelism certificates as follows:

Granted commissioned evangelist: Amanda Pettit, Benjamin Pettit, E.L. Wisehart, Joy Wisehart

Granted registered evangelist: Michael Garza Jr.

We recommend the approval of Special Service (SPC) status for the following persons: Jacob Abbey-Johnson, Paul R. "Bob" Evans; Gerald Greuling, Amy A. Orban; Timothy L. Pepper, Duane V. Rensberry; Terry Turner; Steven Ray Turrell

We recommend that all licensed ministers on the Michigan District have a background check completed. All newly licensed ministers on the Michigan District will have to pay the appropriate one-time fee so that a background check can be completed.

Respectfully Submitted,

REV. BRADLEY DYRNESS, Chairman

REV. REBECCA GRAHAM, Secretary

# District Advisory Board—Page 1

The District Advisory Board (DAB) of the Michigan District Church of the Nazarene met 5 times during the 2023-2024 church year. The organizational meeting was held at Indian Lake Nazarene Camp. Other meetings were held in person at the district office with the option for remote participants. District Superintendent Rev. Bradley Dyrness chaired the meetings. Each meeting opened with sharing of scripture and prayer.

The DAB carefully monitors the finances of the district under the leadership of Treasurer Tim Brenner, Business Manager Danielle Haldane and the District Finance Committee. Tim Brenner was elected as Treasurer and Marlene Webster re-elected as DAB Secretary.

## CREDENTIAL MATTERS

We approved the following transfers of Licensed and Ordained Ministers:

### Transfers Received:

Ed O'Connor (Lowell) from Northeastern Indiana District  
Taylor White (Mt. Pleasant First, District Licensed) from East Tennessee  
Tim Johnson (Sumner Center) from Indianapolis District  
Gloria Johnson (Sumner Center) from Indianapolis District  
Joseph Young (GR NE Community) from Southwest Ohio  
Cheryl Young (GR NE Community) from Southwest Ohio  
Brandon Hird (Chap Naz) from Chicago Central (ChapNaz)

### Transfers Granted:

Austin Hill to Northwest Ohio  
Kari Ann Klein to North Carolina District  
Ken Sabotka to Northern Michigan District  
David Becker to Chicago Central  
Tanner Griffin to Chicago Central

### Granted Retirement Status:

David Downs, Elder, RA  
John Obrecht, Elder, RA  
Todd Compton, Deacon, RU

We approved the following District licenses to those serving as Lead Pastors:

Justin Schultz – Nashville  
Zachariah Caruth – Holland New Life  
Ashley Robbins – Co-lead pastor at ChapNaz  
Thomas Dixon - Alma

We recommend the approval of Special Service (SPC) status for the following persons:

Jacob Abbey-Johnson, Paul "Bob" Evans, Gerald Greuling, Amy Orban, Timothy Pepper, Duane Rensberry, Terry Turner, Steven Turrell

We approved the filing of Credential for: Tim Deshaw

We approved the release of Credential for: Mark Quinn

We granted the request for duplicate credential to: Lori Harvey

## District Advisory Board—Page 2

### PROPERTY & CHURCH MATTERS

The following churches received the 10% OTHERS GRANT: White Pigeon Lighthouse, Hillsdale, Connection Point, Restoration 58:12, Owosso City, Mt. Pleasant First, Lowell, St. Johns, Eaton Rapids, Sparta, Kalamazoo South Side, Clyde Park

The following pastors are part of the Preaching Collaborative: Bryce Gernand, Travis Myers, Aaron Gregory

We approved the appointment of ILNC Executive Director, Rev. Jeffrey Hodge.

We approved the sale of Bay City First Church building.

We approved the possible merger of Bay City Faith and Bay City First churches.

We approved the appointment of Rev. Joe Young as the District Intercultural Ministries Director.

We approved Point-to-point giving for our district Intercultural Ministries Director.

We approved changed criteria for the M034 The Malcom “Mac” Delbridge Ministerial Education Scholarship.

We approved Clyde Park to secure a bus loan.

We approved the sale of the Corunna Church building.

We approved the payoff of the inactive Ionia church mortgage.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

REV. BRADLEY DYRNESS, Chairman

REV. MARLENE WEBSTER, DAB Secretary

## Auditing Committee Report

In 2024, the independent accounting firm of Yeo & Yeo CPAs & Business Consultants has conducted a full audit of all Michigan District finances for the church year of June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023. This audit has been completed in follow-up to previous consulting arrangements with Yeo & Yeo in preparation for this audit. A copy of the audit report is available in the Michigan District Office.

The District Advisory Board has adopted a policy of conducting an external audit every three years, with the next audit scheduled to occur during the 2026-2027 church year for the financials of 2025-2026.

## Church Properties Board

This year the properties board consisted of Don Pierce, Keith Kelley, Eva Schoon, and myself. We gladly served the district and reviewed just a few items for three churches on the district. The items included interior remodels, mechanical equipment, and the possible sale of a building. We carefully and prayerfully considered each request and gave our insights and suggestions to the individual churches before recommending a course of action to the district superintendent.

The properties board is glad to see our churches working hard to maintain and improve church properties to be able to serve their communities and we are happy to help in any way that we can. Please contact me if you need assistance with property issues. The request form is on the district website for you to fill out and send in to begin the process for proper district approval whenever you are contemplating a facilities related project

*Respectfully submitted,*  
KEN MCNULTY, Chairman

Cell 517.202.6195  
klmcnulty86@gmail.com

## Memoirs—2023-2024

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Albion</b>                      | Richard Dittis  |
| <b>Battle Creek First</b>          | Rosemary Godby, Barbara Pelchat   |
| <b>Bay City First</b>              | Darlene Coppinger   |
| <b>Charlotte New Faith</b>         | Bill Carpenter  |
| <b>Corunna</b>                     | Anita Karianen, Floyd Elliott   |
| <b>Durand</b>                      | Maxine Casner   |
| <b>Eaton Rapids</b>                | Tom Luttrell, Mary Lou Luttrell   |
| <b>Elmdale</b>                     | Ella Aspinall   |
| <b>Grand Haven</b>                 | Richard Meinel, Phillip Fowler  |
| <b>Grand Ledge</b>                 | Margaret Maxwell, Dana Jo Davis   |
| <b>GRIF</b>                        | Sandy Blank, Larae Lord, Clyde Loew   |
| <b>Greenville</b>                  | Sue Badder  |
| <b>Hastings</b>                    | Don Dorman, Bill Mallekoote   |
| <b>Holland New Life</b>            | Jim Harris  |
| <b>Holt</b>                        | Esperanza (Hope) Quiroga  |
| <b>Jackson First</b>               | William MacMillan, Daniel "Daan" Offerman, Martha Osborne   |
| <b>Lansing South</b>               | Beth Bryant, Roger Crostwaite, Rick Mason, Elisabeth Pence  |
| <b>Lansing Woodview</b>            | Lucille Clayton, Willard Fitzgerald   |
| <b>Lowell</b>                      | Esther Newell, Ethel Batterbee  |
| <b>Mason First</b>                 | Debbie Bidle, Eula-Adine Weigelt, Maxine Bazy, Bill Phillips, Dorothy Blue, Linda Klekman, Janet Raymond  |
| <b>Midland Nease Memorial</b>      | Nancy Hanson, Willon Buehrer  |
| <b>Mount Pleasant Faith Indian</b> | Dorothy Netmop  |
| <b>Mount Pleasant First</b>        | Bob Bearss, Eugene Bushey   |
| <b>Muskegon Connection Point</b>   | Bob Hart, Cathy Luce, Terry Luce, Bea Smith   |
| <b>New Lothrop</b>                 | Dale Wilson   |
| <b>Owosso City</b>                 | Holly Crawford  |
| <b>Owosso First</b>                | Jack Bott, Elida Connor, Holly Crawford, Ray Cruce, Verla Dodd, Wesley Wildrick, Dennis Jenkins, Rick Plumbley, Mildred Samson, Joan Smith, Kevin Webster |
| <b>Perry</b>                       | Paul Banker, Joyce Barber, Julie Mangles, Ted Rowley  |
| <b>Portage Cross Community</b>     | Ethelyn "Cissy" DeHaan, Ronald Vining, Janet Meulman  |
| <b>Portland</b>                    | Bob Atherton  |
| <b>Saginaw First</b>               | Timothy Smith   |
| <b>Saginaw Swan Valley</b>         | Sylvia Hildebrandt, Harvey George, Ida Vernick  |
| <b>Saginaw Valley</b>              | Marylin Barnekow, Rose Mustric, Dorthy Owens, Rick Watkins  |
| <b>Sparta</b>                      | Lonne Geers, Vance Tawney, Sharon Bontrager, Dick Forsythe  |
| <b>St. Johns</b>                   | Dan Ritter  |
| <b>St. Louis Restoration 58:12</b> | Connie McGill, Beverly Balcom   |
| <b>Sturgis</b>                     | Pauline Richards  |
| <b>Three Rivers</b>                | Larry McCally   |
| <b>Vicksburg Chapman Memorial</b>  | Ronald Gus Beebe, Martha Bowen, Rev. Almon Fulton, Brenda Mitchell, Donna Parham, Max Sabin, Sue Sabin  |

# Ministerial Support

We, your Committee on Ministerial Support, recommend the following:

## *I. Ministering to Our Pastors and Ministerial Staff*

- A. That our church boards do all they can to relieve the pastor from financial worry and discomfort, as well as from the need of secular employment, by striving to supply the following compensations; and that the pastor make every effort to give full time to the work of the church, not engaging in secular work except where it is absolutely necessary:
1. Moving expenses for new pastor (i.e., van costs, family travel expenses, interim salary compensations, etc.).
  2. Adequate starting salary, not including fringe benefits (i.e., commensurate at least with starting teacher salaries in the community).
  3. Car reimbursement, in addition to the pastor's salary, be given.
  4. A Medical Plan, paying the premiums covering the pastor and family.
  5. Full self-employment tax reimbursement, computed on basic salary, fringe benefits, parsonage allowance and/or fair rental value of parsonage, paid at least quarterly.
  6. Vacations granted to all ministers on the church staff, with salary and pulpit supply paid by the church; that the dates are to be set at their discretion with the approval of the senior pastor and the church board, and the vacation time shall be based on the following formula:
    - a. at least two weeks for pastors serving the denomination 1-5 years
    - b. at least three weeks for pastors serving the denomination for 6-14 years
    - c. four weeks for pastors serving the denomination for 15-19 years
    - d. five weeks for pastors serving the denomination for 20-24 years
    - e. six weeks for pastors serving the denomination for 25 years and over
  7. That each local church give the week of Camp Meeting to their pastor to attend the District Camp Meeting, not counting this as part of the pastor's vacation (one week, including one Sunday).
  8. **That churches consider offering maternity or paternity leave to pastors and staff in addition to and separately from vacation time, per Manual 116.**
  9. That the church provide funds for mileage, baby-sitter, Housing, meals, etc., for all district and general church functions.
    - a. Official district church meetings (i.e., assembly, pastors' workshop, District Ministry Team Retreat, seminars, Camp Meeting, and pastors' revivals)
    - b. Official general church meetings (i.e., general assembly, Evangelism Conference)
  10. That the church provide funds for continuing pastoral education (i.e., book allowance, PALCON, Institute of Church Management, district continuing educational program, etc.).
  11. That all church-owned parsonages on the Michigan District be furnished with the heavy major appliances (refrigerator, range, washer and dryer, dishwasher, and such other appliances and conveniences as may be common to the local congregation).
  12. That the level of appreciation and respect for the ministry among the congregation be lifted by remembering the pastor, the pastor's spouse, and the parsonage children in special ways on birthdays, anniversaries, and Christmas.
  13. That our churches participate in Nazarene Retirement Program (tax-sheltered annuity) by contributing at least an amount equal to 5 percent of the pastor's salary; and that our pastors consider contributing additionally to the fund.

## Ministerial Support (con't)

14. That our church boards plan a Pastor/Staff Appreciation Day suggested in October or sometime during the year.
15. That pastor and all staff salaries and benefits be thoroughly reviewed annually. Salary increases in cash or benefits shall be at the discretion of the church board.
16. That each local church consider ways of guarding needed private time for their pastor and the pastor's family to maintain and enrich their relationships. They represent the church's most valuable resource. They deserve our love, our support, and our prayers. We recommend pastors take a day off each week.
17. That churches and pastors giving consideration to study leaves are asked to consult with the district superintendent for guidelines in planning.
18. That a sabbatical plan be considered for a pastor who has served a minimum of seven years in the same church. A sabbatical plan is available through the district office, or the Clergy Development office at the GMC.

### *II. Ministering to Our Evangelists*

(tenured, commissioned, registered, and song evangelists employed by the local church for ministerial services)

- A. That each church board agree on minimum compensation to a called evangelist. Realizing that he/she receives no paid vacation, receives no remuneration for time lost due to sickness or seasonal inactivity, we recommend that the church board be generous in paying evangelists (i.e., two times the pastor's salary, plus cash benefits, per week) when the evangelist provides his/her own housing during the meeting, he/she be compensated for the same or consider designating a portion of the compensation as housing allowance.
- B. That our churches plan some program to underwrite the major portion of the evangelist's compensation prior to the meeting, and that added consideration be given to husband/wife teams carrying the total program.
- C. That the local church board remember with a Christmas gift the evangelists and song evangelists that have served their local church during the past year; we suggest a gift equal to 5 percent of the compensation given them.
- D. That the local church with a commissioned evangelist or a commissioned song evangelist as a member pay one-half of the evangelist's district hospitalization and one half of the evangelist's Social Security tax.

### *III. Ministering to Our Retiring Pastors and Evangelists (those receiving basic pension)*

That the church board endeavor to express in a tangible way its love and appreciation to its retiring pastor or evangelist through ongoing assistance with medical insurance, farewell activities, paying moving expenses or a portion thereof, and a love gift of monetary value.

### *IV. Other Recommendations*

- A. That copies of this report be sent by the district secretary to the pastor and church board secretary of each local church, and that the local church board secretary present this report to the local church board at its September meeting.
- B. That following a salary review a report be sent to the district office by the church board secretary.

*Respectfully submitted,*

REV. BRADLEY DYRNESS, *Chairman*

REV. REBECCA GRAHAM, *Secretary*

# Sabbatical Policy

## **PURPOSE OF SABBATICAL**

To provide long-term pastoral staff and their family the opportunity of a sabbatical leave for the purpose of professional development, personal and spiritual renewal, rest, and visioning. By means of a sabbatical leave, the congregation wishes to express gratitude and affirmation to our pastor and family.

At the same time, it is the intent that the church will be challenged to a special time of renewal as well as an enlarged vision of its ministry.

## **SABBATICAL TIME FRAME FOR THE SENIOR PASTOR**

A sabbatical leave of seven to thirteen weeks will be provided to the senior pastor after the completion of each seven years of consecutive full time employment.

It is preferred that the seven to thirteen week sabbatical be taken in consecutive weeks. However, a two session sabbatical could be considered, by each local church.

The scheduling of the sabbatical leave shall take into consideration the needs of the congregation, the scheduling needs from the pastor's proposal, and other pertinent concerns as may be established.

## **SABBATICAL TIME FRAME FOR ASSOCIATE PASTORS**

A sabbatical leave may be considered for full time associate pastors at the discretion of the senior pastor and church board. A sabbatical leave provided for an associate pastor shall follow the same guidelines as for the senior pastor and as set forth in this outline.

## **SABBATICAL PLANNING**

The use of the seven week sabbatical will be primarily planned by the pastor and shall require church board approval. It is recommended and preferred that the sabbatical include activities and events that will carry out the purpose of the sabbatical as stated above.

The church board shall appoint a Sabbatical Committee to receive and review the pastor's proposed plan of sabbatical leave. It shall help establish specific expectations of the sabbatical and present the plan to the church board for review and approval. It shall help develop a plan for implementing the sabbatical leave and carrying on the ministry of the church in the pastor's absence.

These specifics shall be followed:

1. It shall be the responsibility of the church board to initiate the planning by setting aside funds on a regularly scheduled basis to finance a sabbatical. A budget line item should be established to track the accumulation of funds.
2. At the end of the Pastor's sixth year of employment, the board shall appoint a committee of a minimum of three individuals from the board and the congregation. The committee will serve from the date of receipt of the pastor's sabbatical plan until the sabbatical evaluation is completed upon the pastor's return.
3. At the end of the pastor's sixth year of employment, the board shall ask the pastor to prepare a sabbatical leave itinerary to be presented to the church board. The pastor's proposed plan shall be received by the Sabbatical Committee six months prior to the planned date of commencement of the sabbatical. The proposed plan should focus on the specific objectives of the leave. The proposed plan shall also outline how the pastoral duties will be carried out in the pastor's absence.

# Sabbatical Policy (con't)

## **PROCEDURE FOR CONTINUING THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH DURING THE PASTOR'S SABBATICAL LEAVE**

The pastor will provide a proposed plan for the continuing ministry of the church during the sabbatical. The pastor will be responsible for appointing persons from the pastoral staff or arranging for interim leadership to carry out the administrative duties, congregational care ministries, and pulpit responsibilities.

It is recommended that only normal activities and regularly scheduled events in the ministry of the church (i.e. Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening service, regularly scheduled board meeting) are to be carried out.

During the sabbatical, contact with the senior pastor should be limited to the following:

1. Serious illness or death of a member of the congregation.
2. Any event that the Sabbatical Committee and the interim pastor jointly determine to be an emergency situation; and/or . . .
3. A specific prearranged request by the senior pastor.

## **FINANCING OF SABBATICAL LEAVE**

1. The church shall make the following financial commitment during the pastor's sabbatical leave:

The pastor's full salary and benefits will continue. There will be no reduction of salary or benefits during the duration of the sabbatical.

2. Seminar or educational expenses incurred by the pre-approved sabbatical plan will be supported by the church according to professional development policies.
3. A sabbatical budget will be established with the amount to be approved by the church board after consideration and approval of the sabbatical plan. The budget may assist with additional expenses (e.g. travel expense).

## **THE PASTOR'S FAMILY DURING SABBATICAL LEAVE**

The pastor and his or her spouse shall determine the role family members will take in the sabbatical leave. That role shall be included in the proposed plan for sabbatical that the pastor submits to the Sabbatical Committee for board approval.

The pastor's immediate family members may, but are not expected to, attend regularly scheduled services and/or activities. The pastor and family members shall be free to communicate with the church community as they desire.

However, to enable the sabbatical to accomplish the intended purpose, it will be requested of the congregation and the board that no direct communication be made with the pastor or the pastor's family members.

## **RETURN FROM SABBATICAL**

Upon return from sabbatical leave, the pastor shall first meet with the Sabbatical Committee and interim pastor before re-entering his duties of ministry. A date shall be scheduled for this meeting prior to the commencement of the sabbatical leave. The purpose of the meeting shall be twofold. First, the committee and interim pastor will inform the pastor of all issues that have arisen in his absence, bring him up to date on all activities, and discuss the effect the sabbatical has had on the church. Second, the pastor may in turn give a brief oral report to the Sabbatical Committee on his activities and what he feels transpired with regard to carrying out the goals of the sabbatical.

## Sabbatical Policy (con't)

The pastor and the Sabbatical Committee shall each prepare a written report at approximately one month following the pastor's return.

The first Sunday worship service following the pastor's return should be planned as a celebration of renewal for the pastor and congregation.

### STIPULATIONS

1. Sabbatical leave will not negate any of the pastor's earned vacation. Vacation days may not be used to extend the length of sabbatical leave.
2. Sabbatical leave will be in addition to board approved events or seminars throughout the sabbatical year.
3. No more than one member of the pastoral staff may be on sabbatical leave at any one time.
4. No personnel shall be hired or terminated while the senior pastor is on sabbatical, unless approval is given by the senior pastor.
5. It is advised that district responsibilities held by Pastor or Staff be suspended during the sabbatical time, except for "end-of-year" reports.
6. This sabbatical leave policy shall be reviewed periodically.
7. The purpose of this policy is for direction and is not intended to be all conclusive. Proposed changes or additions in the above policy may be submitted to the Sabbatical Committee and presented to the church board for approval.

Resources to check out:

[www.nazarene.org](http://www.nazarene.org)  
[www.nazarenepastor.org](http://www.nazarenepastor.org) (Clergy Resources)  
[www.pinmin.org](http://www.pinmin.org) (Pinnacle Ministries)  
[www.pastorsretreatnetwork.org](http://www.pastorsretreatnetwork.org) (various retreat locations)  
[www.lillyendowment.org/religion](http://www.lillyendowment.org/religion) (funding for sabbaticals)  
[www.louisville-institute.org](http://www.louisville-institute.org)

Reviewed 2021

## District NDI Report (formerly SDMI)

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am genuinely grateful, and filled with joy, that I get to lead the discipleship charge on the great Michigan District! I include this every year and its true again, "The Kingdom is advancing and breaking forth in new (or rediscovered!) ways as we are returning to King Jesus' call to make disciples, everywhere we go, in a changing world and culture." I love to see the awakening in our churches and leaders, that intentional discipling efforts can produce more Kingdom fruit than countless hours of programmatic activity! We are watching lives truly transformed as they are being shaped and formed in Christlikeness, not religious busyness. There are many people who are a part of this beautiful movement on your Michigan District discipleship team. A heartfelt thank you to our District Superintendent, **Pastor Brad Dyrness**, who understands the immense value of discipleship and celebrates and partakes in the work. We have the best NDI Council in the denomination: **Erin Roehm** (Secretary), **Ashley Robbins** (Treasurer), **Abbi Horn**, **Allison Gregory**, **Jimmy Guffey**, **Megan Staples** and **Stef Grgurich**. We celebrate a wonderful transition of the Children's Ministry Director role from **Kelly Downs** to **Stef Grgurich**! We are also grateful for **Sarah Bawks** (Quizzing Director) leadership these past several years and rejoice in her call to pursue a lead pastorate. We are indebted to our "discipleship specialist" **Devon Staples**, **Richelle Martzke** and **Danielle Haldane** who do so much, **Jeff Hodge** and **ILNC**, **Hannah Jones-Nelson** (NYI), **Karla Hurt** (NMI), so many incredible colleagues (all who have offered wisdom over hours of conversation!) and so many more whom I hope I have not forgotten. Most importantly, thank you **Liz**, **Ethan** and **Aiden** and **Durand** for giving of your pastor, husband and dad.

I still believe true biblical, kingdom-oriented discipleship can revitalize, rebirth and transform our churches and communities. This is still our focus and vision from King Jesus! We, the NDI Council, desire to see each local church on the Michigan district have a healthy and effective discipleship culture (this is more than programs and bible studies). We realize the Holy Spirit will contextualize that in each community; however, we believe there must be shared ideas/practices, partnerships and resources established. Are we staying on the "information based" level or have we entered into the holy, sacred and transparent places of "formational and relational based" ways of living out our faith? This is how we can see Kingdom faithfulness in our local churches and fulfill our district themes (praying, connecting, strengthening and expanding). This still means large(r) and small(er) churches learning, sharing and growing from one another! I challenge you pastor and lay person, please do not be an island.

The NDI Council loves our local churches, pastors, staff pastors and lay leaders! We exist to come alongside you. After all, as someone on our council said, NDI is not the generator of ministry, we are the connectors! We are not looking for what you can do for the district, we are looking for how we can serve our local churches and communities together. There is no district without healthy local pastors, leaders and churches! Please feel free to reach out to myself or any NDI Council member throughout the year.

The bulk of what I have shared has stayed the same over the years, we are patiently and persistently laboring for the harvest. Let's jump into the progress and ministry over the past church year! An integral part of district NDI is our partnership with Indian Lake. In collaboration with childrens and youth ministries, we are expecting the best summer camps in recent memory. Thank you for supporting camps, sending kids and teens and volunteering. We are blessed to have ILNC, the staff/team and our Executive Director **Jeff Hodge** and his wife **Tanett**! We will have family activities again this year to nurture and foster connections between family and one another. We can't wait to have you experience a twist on the traditional Bible Study hour! This year, instead of one speaker, we have invited four speakers from our district to share from the Spirit and what's passionate to them. Please thank **Jesse Briles**, **Tim Smith**, **Danielle Jones** and **Joy Wisheart** when you see them. Can't wait to see you at the lake!

## District NDI Report (formerly SDMI) cont...

Our capstone event, **Come to the Table**, took a leap forward in effectiveness and participation. Thank you, thank you again to **Lansing South COTN** for opening their building to us. I cannot name all the breakout class leaders and people that made this a reality, you know who you are, thank you! Our keynote speaker, **Stephanie Dyrness Lobdell**, captured the heart of this event unlike any other speaker before her. What a beautiful and sacred moment we shared together as she led us and challenged us to think about “who’s at our table?” I must commend the work of the Come to the Table planning team. They are making vision into reality and God has blessed their efforts. Due to their planning and intentionality we were able to announce our theme and speaker for 2025. We are very much looking forward to hearing from **Pastor Marlene Webster on Compassionate Ministry as Discipleship! Please put March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, on your calendar, looking forward to seeing you there!**

We are to view discipleship as the entire process of reaching people before salvation and intentionally walking with them to full surrender and onwards in the transformation of Christlikeness. Who are you intentionally building relationship with, praying for and taking risks from a place of your love for them and Jesus? It’s difficult and messy isn’t? This must happen outside and within the church body. Our NDI team understands that at a deep level and even experienced practicing discipleship as we called pastors and leaders from all our churches. Who knew, there were hurts and needs that even our pastors and leaders carry? Would you please encourage pastors and church leaders these days, as well as, one another as we follow Jesus’ call to make disciples?

Would you also pray for our upcoming year! We have some exciting hopes and plans. We are looking at the real possibility of launching district retreats in this upcoming church year! Please look for information coming out in district emails or posters mailed to your church. Let’s come together to play, pray and be united in the Spirit for mission across our district. We also have two pivotal conferences this year that will strengthen and equip us better to serve our churches well. The denominational NDI Leadership Conference is this coming fall, as well as, M25 conference early next calendar year. Every single person who attends these conferences gives a report and seeks to bring back fresh insight to strengthen the team and district!

Thank you for your support and belief in district NDI! I wish to share these words from last year, “we welcome you all to come to the table, pull up a chair, and share your voice and heart as we listen to one another in this ongoing district conversation on how to faithfully make disciples in our day and place.” Let’s witness a move of God sweep across our district as we let go and trust the Holy Spirit to lead us back into our communities and into new relationships for the sake of the Kingdom. Remember, you are of Kingdom value, you are seen by the Father and empowered to make disciples!

Grace and Peace,  
Nate Gray  
Michigan NDI Director

# District NYI Report

Hello members of the 2024 District Assembly!

I am so grateful to have finished my first year as our NYI president, and I am excited to continue to serve the district again this coming year. You might be wondering, what is included in this NYI report? What can I expect? In the next few paragraphs, you'll find a **look back on this past year, a look forward to the future, and ways you can connect to MI NYI!** Keep reading for the best report from NYI you'll see all year...

## **A look back at this year together...**

Last June, we honored Rev. Travis Myers (our outgoing NYI president) with a Timothy award for his years of incredible leadership and service to our students! Travis was also our family camp speaker last year, and we were able to worship with around 65 students each morning.

After the summer wrapped up, we held our first council meeting with over 20 in person and on zoom. We also held our first new NYI president orientation, with 7 churches participating. During this time we provided information about the district, offered resources for presidents to use in their churches, and pointed them to different ways to stay connected. Our January meeting was held at Clyde Park COTN. At this meeting, we voted to update a few NYI policies that have not been reviewed since 2008. We held our last NYI meeting for the year in April at Midland COTN. It is always good to gather with our churches, and I hope even more will join us this coming year!

In January, we gathered at Lansing SouthNaz to hold our district celebrate life. We had the highest attendance since before COVID, which is a big win! Jimmy Guffey has done a phenomenal job leading the event. Our field level celebrate life was at ONU in May, and we brought 183 people from MI. There were 1400 total people, and we loved hearing from Carly Bartlett about God's love for us and the ways we can respond to that love. Our district took 3rd place overall, and we also won the award for good sportsmanship!

One of the best parts of the past year was definitely attending NYI Leadership Conference in Nampa, ID. This is an event put on by USA/Canada for NYI leaders, and we were able to send 4 people from our district. Andrew Jones (Spring Arbor), Stu Shattuck (Mason), and Ashley Robbins (ChapNaz) all attended as well, and we received valuable information, connections, and time together.

Another best part of the year was participating in our district Come to the Table event (where we also held our NYI convention and elections). Our students continue to amaze me with their commitment to learning about Jesus and how to grow in their relationship with God. My favorite part of the event was leading a breakout session for students exploring a call in ministry. We had over 20 students show up to talk about what God is doing in their lives!

Earlier this summer, we held our middle and high school weeks of camp here at Indian Lake. BIG thank you's do our incredible director team: Pastors Stu Shattuck (Mason), James Lounsberry (Midland), Zac Caddy (Owosso), Matthew Spear (Connection Point). They did a phenomenal job leading and aking space for our students to connect to each other and Jesus. Our speakers (Pastor Lauren Lain, MS and Rev. Stephanie Lobdell, HS) both were well loved by students, and our band from Olivet Nazarene (The Narrow) led our students in meaningful worship through music. I am also thankful for our pastors who led us in our morning spiritual formation times: Aaron Brawner (Perry) and Daniel Kasaggoma (GRIF). We also had a glow night at HS camp, a concert by PEABOD at MS camp, plenty of hours in the lake, and way too many sunburns!

I am excited to hear from Pastors Ashley and Brian Robbins at our teen services this week. City on a Hill from Olivet will be leading our students in worship, and they will also be leading Thursday night! We pray that God will continue to speak to our students.

## **A look forward to our future...**

**MI NYI Goals:** *Equip youth leaders and support existing youth ministries in the Michigan district through meaningful connections, intentional events, and resources that reflect our Nazarene tradition.*

As we look to the future of NYI, I want to remind all of us that students are more than just the "future of the church." Our students are current members of the body of Christ, they are active, they serve, they often teach our adults more than we realize. I believe in our students, and I am passionate about coming alongside them and the students leading youth ministries on our district. Thank you for loving our students! Thank you for valuing this important ministry!

The district is here to support the local church in whatever way your NYI needs. Maybe you need a place for your NYI president to find community or resources, our quarterly meetings and other events are a great place for this! Maybe you need a place for your students to meet others and feel supported, and our district has committed to supporting your students in this way! Maybe you need to see a picture of the church as the larger body of Christ, and I am so grateful to have the chance to gather with all of the local churches on our district and field so show students that the church is alive and active all over Michigan, the USA, and the world!

## District NYI Report cont...

One of my favorite parts of this Michigan district is how connected we are, it's something most districts don't get the chance to experience, and I never want to take it for granted. I love getting to know students and adults from across our state and making connections that maybe wouldn't happen with just one single church! It can feel overwhelming, even lonely, to run a youth ministry by yourself. We never want our churches to experience this, and we hope that you know our district NYI is here to support you.

In the coming year, I hope that we can continue to grow in our connections with one another, both for students and adults! One of the best ways to do this is through attending events, even if that means only one student or adult from your church shows up. When we connect together, we can fill in the gaps for one another.

As in the past, our future NYI events are always planned to intentionally build relationships between students, adults, and Jesus. We love to hear feedback if you have attended a previous event (or if you haven't been able to attend, we would love feedback on what has stood in your way). We celebrate the wins from events but also realize that there is always room for improvement! By hosting these events, we hope to continue to strengthen our connections to one another, disciple our students through words and actions, and enjoy having fun together.

I also hope that we can continue to equip our leaders through our NYI meetings and also by sharing resources with each other. Our district NYI Facebook group exists for resources and questions to be shared. I am always available to talk, answer questions, and help you find other youth pastors/leaders who can walk with your NYI. We have a wealth of knowledge between NYI pastors and leaders, and I know personally, my ministry is better when I learn from others around me. I also love sharing resources that are committed to our Wesleyan-Holiness tradition, and I would love to connect with your NYI about resources/curriculum that can be of service to your church.

### Get involved

As we look to the future, there are a lot of ways you can be involved in NYI! First and most importantly, you can commit to praying for our students, leaders, and district as we walk together.

You can also get connected with your local NYI ministry - volunteer weekly, mentor a student, financially support students going to camp or NYC.

You can get involved with our district - volunteer at camp, check in with local youth pastors/leaders, donate snacks for the lock in!

Finally, you can support NYI with the ways that you love on the students around you. Get to know them and the things they love. Listen to their loud music and maybe they'll be willing to hear your favorite songs, too. Let them know that you care about them, hear them out when they have new ideas, sit by them on a Sunday morning, show up to a sporting event or concert at their school.

Our students are better because of you and the ways you show them Jesus's love lived out!

### Upcoming events...

ONU field students called to ministry conference (September 20-22 in Valparaiso, IN)

District youth pastor/NYI president retreat (Oct 17-19, Starwood Ranch)

Lock in (Oct 25-26, 3 Mile Project)

### Submitted by

**Rev. Hannah Jones-Nelson**

# Indian Lake Nazarene Camp

Indian Lake Nazarene Camp  
Executive Director's Report  
District Assembly 2024

Welcome to your Indian Lake Nazarene Camp. If I may use a sport saying, the rookie season is over. Last year, at the time of this writing, I was walking into my first camp as the new executive director. I had a sense of what I was getting into but in all actuality, I had a lot to learn. I am so grateful to our staff in our office who helped make the transition a positive one and helped me in the big learning curve I was about to face. Tyler Couchenour, Bonnie Taylor, Johnna Sturgeon and Carmen Borton extended a lot of grace to me as I tried to grasp all that Indian Lake is. Your camp board has been amazing in this learning process as well. As to my report, here we go.

This is my first of hopefully many reports to this wonderful district Church. Tanett, my wife, asks me almost weekly now, "Do you still like being here?" and my answer is always a resounding, "I love this ministry and my job here!" I feel I have the best job in the world, and with the staff that we have put together, I believe we are setup for success for many years to come. We also could not do the things that we have accomplished this year like, picnic tables for the Pavilion, repair the boardwalk, taking care of the lawn across the camp, raking up leaves, man power to help get boats stored away and back out again, kitchen help and much, much more without the generous help of our leaseholder volunteers along with the many groups that have come in to volunteer as well. It just goes to show how much people love Indian Lake Nazarene Camp.

The camp has been very busy this last year dealing with planned projects and the unplanned projects.

- The Pavilion project is fully funded and depending on inspections should be completed as the time of this assembly.
- Electrical meters and electrical enhancements across camp have been a constant project this year.
- Upgrading electrical service to our RV park, pavilion, and green barn have brought its challenges yet we continue push through.
- Water service across camp. Six water main issues have been fixed, new valves in the pump house have increase water pressure. Nine water leaks have been fixed that lead into homes.
- Eight septic systems have been destroyed and filled in.
- Boat dock connections have and are being upgraded.
- New landscaping around the dining hall with additional sitting areas for places to gather and enjoy some ice cream.
- 

These projects are all being accomplished by your generous giving and support. Thank you for giving to the ministry of ILNC.

Yes, it's been a busy year, 10 different camps, 50 different retreats this last year along with all the leaseholder activities, the camp has been put to good use. Plus, at the time of this reading, we are well on our way to another exciting year of camps and activities.

I believe the future of Indian Lake Nazarene Camp is bright. As we move forward, we have come up with a new slogan if you will and that is ***The Next Century of Relationships***. This is what we are striving for. In 2026 we will be celebrating our 100th Birthday as a camp. We are starting the work to prepare Indian Lake Nazarene Camp for the Next 100 years. Now we know that will take a lot of work, but I believe this is where the Lord is leading. In front of you here in this tabernacle, there is a stone altar. To me this is very significant. Many lives have been transformed here. A new relationship with their Creator was created or renewed at this altar. We desire to keep Indian Lake Nazarene Camp relevant to what our churches need to be able to do ministry so that the new

## Indian Lake Nazarene Camp, cont.

generations to come will have the opportunity to kneel at this altar and allow our Lord Jesus Christ to transform their lives. As we look forward to this next century we need to keep this in mind as we renew the buildings and structures that we have as well as look to how the ministry can reach more people at the same time by building new multi-purpose structures for activities and meeting space for year round use.

I was reminded of this after the first camp that we had this summer. When the camp was over, the director for that camp called me and said he had a present for me. I keep it in my office, and it is an eight and half by eleven canvas that has the finger prints of 17 students who gave their lives to Jesus that week at camp. That is why we need Indian Lake Nazarene Camp. This is why we exist, **to have a sacred space for Renewal, Relationships, Recreation.** Continue to pray for us, and as the Lord lays upon your heart, come partner with us through giving of your Time, Talents and Resources. And tell the story of Indian Lake and how God moved in your life through the ministry here.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Hodge

Renewal-Relationships-Recreation



*Indian Lake*

**NAZARENE CAMP**

• SINCE 1926 •

# Section

# 4

District & ILNC Finance Reports



2024

# Treasurer's Annual Report

Dr. Sunberg, Pastor Brad, delegates, and friends of the Michigan District – Greetings

The 2023/24 fiscal year continued to experience steady growth and positive results. Total revenue was more than 10 % above budget.

We have had a number of individuals take over new to them responsibilities on behalf of the district. We again wish to thank Deidre Marks for her support and assistance during the transition to our new Business manager, Danielle Haldane. Danielle has worked diligently to make a very smooth transition, and is doing a great job for the Michigan District Finance office.

## **2024/25 Budget**

The 2023/24 treasurer's report will show increased expenses related to the costs associated with Nazarene Youth Congress. This event occurs every four years and provides a great experience for our youth. We have seen significant changes in youth from our local congregations that have attended this event.

While we did not anticipate ILNC requiring a subsidy, the District did provide some support primarily due to timing of cash flow at the camp. The NMI, NDI, and NYI continue to support summer camps and encourage all churches to participate in them.

Just as all of our local church boards review their budgets every year, your Finance Committee and District Advisory Board reviewed last year's finances and considered the effect inflation has had with regard to future needs. Unfortunately, we were not able to make all the increases we thought would be beneficial. The Finance Committee and Advisory Board did however make allowance for some special non-recurring projects. These are to be underwritten from accumulated reserves from years when results exceeded budgets.

We continue to pray that we will have 100% participation in supporting the ministries of the Michigan District and our International Church, in finances, prayers and action.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy R. Brenner,  
Michigan District Treasurer

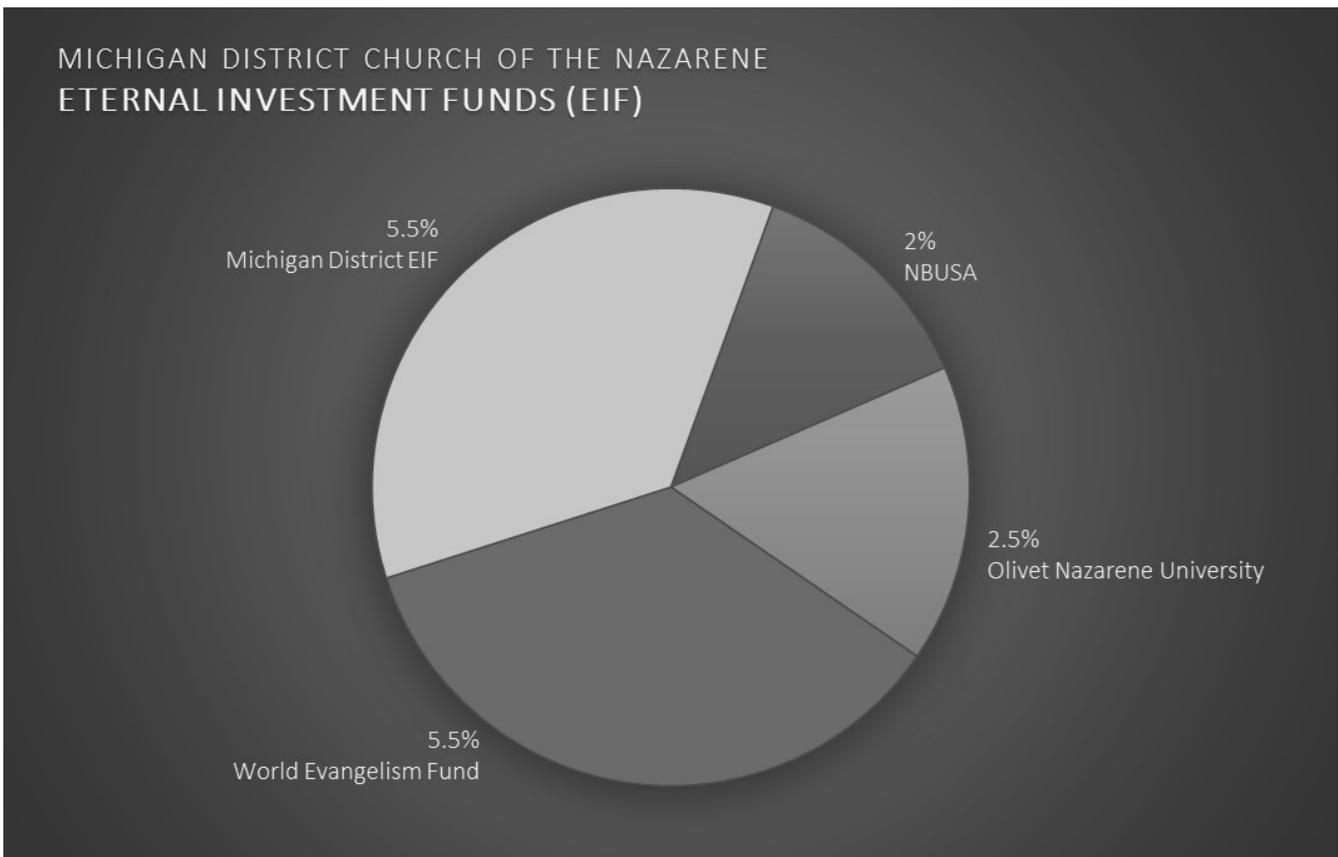
# MICHIGAN DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

## ETERNAL INVESTEMENTS | WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

As your church prepares to budget for the coming year you may be asking where the money from your eternal investment allocations goes and how does it benefit my local church.

Notice there is a change to the percentages. NBUSA (formally P&B) has decreased to 2% and Education (ONU) has increased to 2.5%.

**This change began June 1, 2024.**



## EDUCATION FUND | OLIVET NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

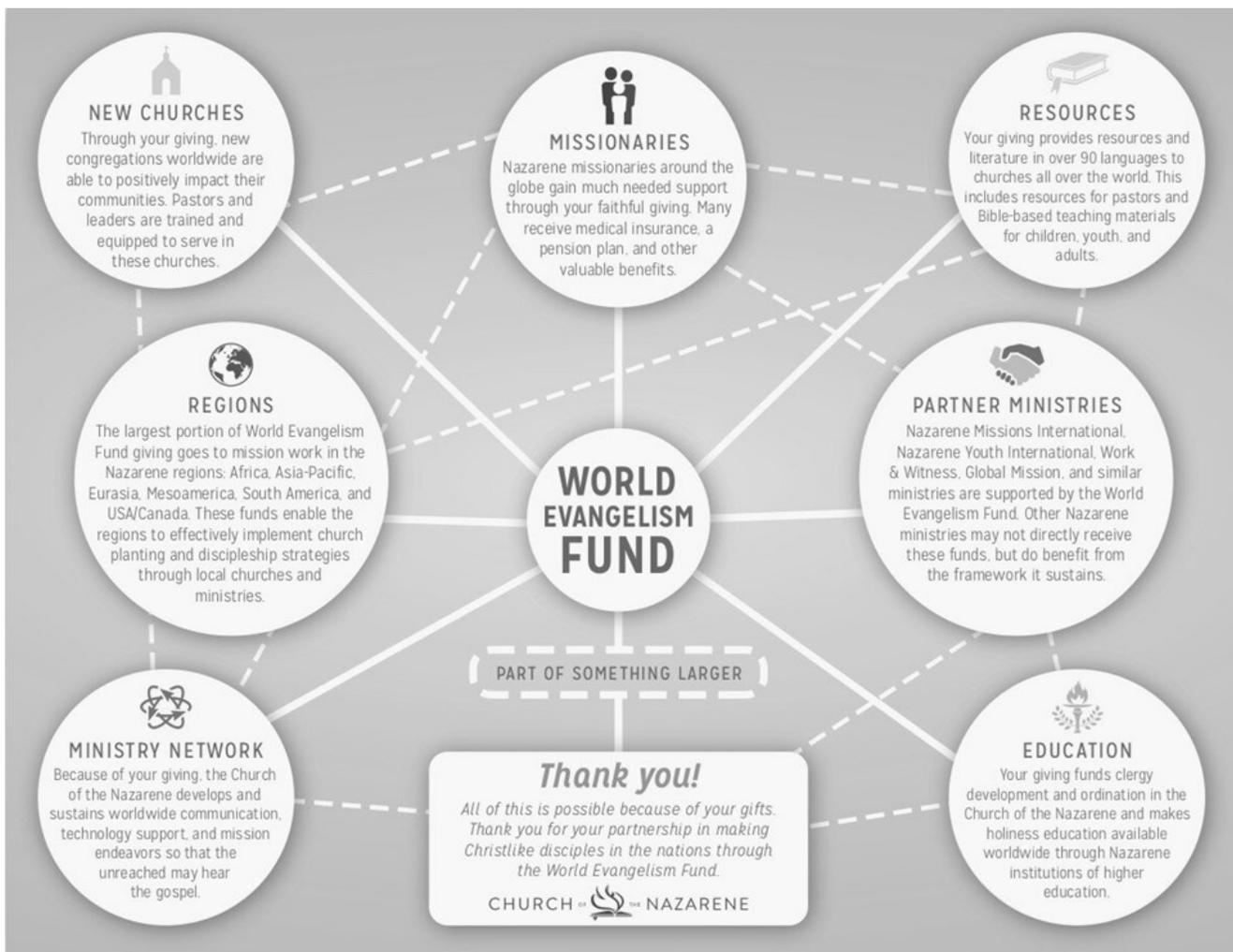


The funds received by churches support Olivet Nazarene University. Those funds are primarily used to provide scholarships for students from our Michigan District. Any student that is a member of the Michigan District can attend for half tuition. ONU offers opportunities for leadership training and is a pipeline for future pastors and pastoral staff. The funds also support the operation of the University. Learn more at <http://www.olivet.edu/>

## WORLD EVANGELISM FUND | WEF

There are currently more than 700 Nazarene missionaries receiving various levels of support serving in 165 areas around the world. Because we fund the WEF budget each of our local churches is a partner in meeting the Great Commission to take the Gospel to the whole world. Very few churches can send even one missionary; but together we can send many.

Our Global Ministry Center, which serves the Church of the Nazarene denomination employs more than 100 people and is also funded through the WEF budget. Learn more at <https://nazarene.org/wef>



### Nazarene 403(b) Retirement Plan



The Nazarene 403(b) Retirement Savings Plan is a specially designed, IRS-qualified group plan for lay and ministerial employees of Nazarene churches and church agencies, evangelists, and registered Nazarene chaplains. It is designed to provide a solid financial future with tax advantages for participants.

### Single Defined Benefit Plan



The Church of the Nazarene Single Defined Benefit Plan was created by the merger of the General Church Pension Plan with the Basic Pension Plan, effective January 1, 1996.

### Insurance



Nazarene Benefits USA (NBUSA) provides up to \$30,000 in basic life and \$500 a month in long-term disability insurance coverage to eligible U.S. pastors whose churches pay at least \$1 of their NBUSA Fund allocation. They also offer supplemental life and disability coverage at reasonable rates.

### Benevolence



Occasionally, ministers face instances of extreme financial need. In some of these cases, Nazarene Benefits USA can lighten the load.

Learn more and download resources at <http://www.nbusa.org>.

## MICHIGAN DISTRICT | ETERNAL INVESTMENTS (EIF)



The MINaz District provides our pastors and staff support, accountability, leadership, and pastoral care.

A local church and pastor receive specific help with:

- Counsel and direction by the District Superintendent's Office including regular Pastoral Reviews, Properties Board, District Advisory Board, District Finance Team, Ministerial Studies, and Credentials Board along with a mentoring program.
- The District Mission Board (NMI) directs and encourages The Great Commission with opportunities in global missions, district projects, and local missions in many communities. NMI provides local church training & workshops and supports our missionaries-in-residence at summer camps and gives at Christmas time.
- The District Discipleship Board (NDI) provides Discipleship training, Bible Quizzing, Camping & Retreat Ministries, Family Camp, Workshops, etc.
- The District Youth Board (NYI) creates opportunities for students from all sized churches to participate in quality Retreats, Quizzing, Camping, and other Youth Ministries.
- All Pastors and Spouses are invited to participate in a Spring Retreat for a fraction of the actual cost, a Christmas Party is provided, and Training for Pastors at Fall Workshops including our retired pastor community.
- A District Attorney is available to local churches for legal counsel.
- The District Office is available for meetings spaces.
- The Reserve Army Fund helps pastors and churches in financial crisis.
- The **10% Others Grant** provides grants for local ministries reaching outside their church doors.
- The District Budget currently supports 5 employees.
- The District Advisory Board (DAB) is investing \$14,000 to support and create scholarships to students preparing for ministry.

Learn more and view upcoming events for the Michigan District at <http://www.minaz.org/>

Any Questions? Please contact us at the Michigan District Office at 517.622.8450 or email [districtbooks@minaz.org](mailto:districtbooks@minaz.org).

# District Assembly Finance Committee Report

It is expected that each local church pays its denominational budgets in full each year.

We, the Finance Committee, recommend the following:

That Eternal Investment Funds (District, NDI, NYI, and NMI) be 5.5 percent of charitable donations received, excluding missions giving (W.E.F., 10 percent Approved Mission Specials, and New Church Starts). Capital Stewardship Campaigns (CSC) (see #3) need to have prior approval of the General Church of the Nazarene Exceptions Committee and the Michigan District Advisory Board. Funds for Eternal Investment Funds are to be sent to the Michigan District Office.

2. That the World Evangelism Fund for each local church is 5.5 percent, NBUSA 2.0 percent, and ONU 2.5 percent of all charitable donations received excluding missions giving (WEF and Approved Missions Giving). Each local church is encouraged to use the Global Ministries website, [www.FundingtheMission.org](http://www.FundingtheMission.org), to assist in calculating and paying the amounts due for all Eternal Investment Funds (EIF). WEF, Approved Missions Giving, NBUSA, ONU, and District funds can be sent on the Funding the Mission website. However, ONU and District EIF funds can be given online or mailed to the Michigan District Office. Churches are encouraged to make EIF payments throughout the year (weekly, monthly, or quarterly).
3. A Capital Stewardship Campaign is defined as a financial fundraising campaign to raise funds for the church that is over and above the tithe and regular offerings of the donor, lasts for a specific time (no longer than 36 months), is limited to facilities intended for worship or discipleship, and is targeted for at least one of the following:

*Purchase of real estate for the expressed intent of worship or discipleship*

*Construction of facilities for said purposes.*

*Acceleration of debt reduction (beyond scheduled loan amortization) on facilities previously constructed for said purposes.*

If a CSC exception is requested and approved, the first day of eligibility will be the first day in the District's fiscal year. A church whose CSC is qualified agrees that, for the duration of the CSC exception, the church will contribute the allocation percentages as prescribed in the Funding the Mission giving plan. In addition, the church agrees to a denominational allocation goal minimum equal to the average of the amount allocated over the previous three fiscal years prior to the start of the campaign. By using the previous three-year average of the local church's Funding the Mission goals, the church's goal would not be less than the three year average of these goals for the duration of the campaign, but the church could give more based on a non-CSC income growth that may occur during the CSC.

4. May 31 is the close of the church fiscal year, and anything received at the District Office after June 10 will not be reflected in District Assembly materials.
5. All churches give emphasis to our *Manual* (2023 edition), par. 32.1, which states,  
*“Storehouse Tithing. Storehouse tithing is a scriptural and practical performance of faithfully and regularly placing the tithe into that church to which the member belongs. Therefore, the financing of the church shall be based on the plan of storehouse tithing, and the local Church of the Nazarene shall be regarded by all of its people as the storehouse. All who are a part of the Church of the Nazarene are urged to contribute faithfully one-tenth of all their increase as a minimum financial obligation to the Lord and freewill offerings in addition as God has prospered them for the support of the whole church, local, district, educational, and general. The tithe, provided to the local Church of the Nazarene, shall be considered a priority over all other giving opportunities which God may lay upon the hearts of His faithful stewards, in support of the whole church.”*
6. The office of the District Treasurer shall communicate a progress report on payment of the District Unified Fund periodically to the churches.
7. The District Business Manager shall send a monthly report to the President/Chairperson and Treasurer of NDI, NYI, and NMI.
8. The ILNC Treasurer shall send a monthly report to the District Superintendent, District Treasurer, and District Finance Committee.

## District Finance Committee (con't)

10. That any additional 9. That the District Operating Budget shall be established based on the projected amount of money that the District anticipates receiving (a.k.a. Zero-Based Budgeting). Additional non-reoccurring projects to be paid from funds accumulated over time have also been included in the 2024-2025 budget.
10. That any additional funds received above the projected amount will be directed to the District Account under the direction of the District Advisory Board in consultation with the District Finance Committee.
11. Pastors and members of churches who do not contribute to assigned allocations (WEF 5.5%, ONU 2.5%, NBUSA 2.0%, District 5.5%) are not eligible to be nominated or elected to serve on any District leadership committees or as a General Assembly delegate.
12. That each church be a 10 percent church for World Evangelism, which includes the World Evangelism Fund (WEF), Approved Mission Specials, and New Church Starts.
13. That all District auxiliary and/or boards make their request for their projected EIF budgets for the coming assembly year in writing no later than February 28 of the current fiscal year. These requests should be submitted to the District Office.
14. The total of honorariums for auxiliary officers may not exceed \$2,000 per auxiliary. The council of each auxiliary is to decide how to distribute this total among their officers.
15. That a uniform housing, travel, and per diem will be recommended for all General Assembly and General Conventions Delegates by the District Finance Committee.
16. That the standard reimbursement rate is based on the current IRS business use mileage rate for all authorized travel under District auspices (committees, boards, auxiliaries, etc.).
17. That the Reserve Army be continued with no more than four promotions made during the year.
18. That all monies received from the sale of property from officially inactive churches, less encumbrances, be turned over to the District Advisory Board to be used at their discretion in accordance with the 2023 *Manual* par.108.2 and 108.5.
19. That any group insurance plan and any necessary adjustments be left to the District Advisory Board.
20. That each church budget for the expenses of all their delegates including pastor and spouse, and pastoral staff, for all District conventions and activities.
21. That each church budget, or receive special offerings, for Nazarene Bible College and Nazarene Theological Seminary and that the money is remitted promptly to the appropriate office (see instruction in General Information section of this District journal).
22. That each local church treasurer submits an itemized written report to the monthly meeting of the local church board and disburses all money at the direction of the church board (see 2023 *Manual*, par.146 through 146.6, and par. 139.21).
23. That the local church is encouraged to invest funds in federally insured banking institutions, their equivalent, or through a licensed fiduciary broker.
24. Pastors shall not be a signatory on any church checking or savings account. That no member of the pastor's immediate family (spouse, children, siblings, parents) can serve as the local church treasurer without the approval of the District Superintendent and the District Advisory Board (see 2023 *Manual*, par.127), and that, furthermore, no member of the pastor's immediate family should be involved in the counting or handling of local church funds without the same approval.
25. That an annual audit/compilation of the treasurer's books be conducted in accordance with the *Manual* (see 2023 *Manual*, par. 139.23).
26. That each local church should use some type of accounting system, such as QuickBooks, and in doing so be compatible with the District software.
27. Recognizing the full-time minister's responsibility at retirement, we recommend that each pastor and church participate in the 403(b) of the general church. (See Ministry Support Report)
28. That individuals are encouraged to remember the Michigan District and Indian Lake Nazarene Camp in their wills and estate planning.
29. That the following items be established in the District Operations apportionment:

## District Finance Committee (con't)

|   | 2024-2025      | 2023-2024      |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| a. Salaries, Wages, Benefits, Business, Professional Expenses and Honorariums | 319,092        | 292,653        |
| <b>People Total</b>   | <b>319,092</b> | <b>292,632</b> |
| b. District Office  |                |                |
| (1) Building Insurance  | 6,000          | 6,000          |
| (2) Maintenance/Repairs   | 3,500          | 3,500          |
| (3) Utilities – Electric/Gas  | 4,100          | 4,100          |
| (4) Office Equipment  | 11,700         | 11,700         |
| (5) Internet  | 5,200          | 5,200          |
| (6) Online Services   | 7,900          | 7,900          |
| (7) IT/Development  | 4,000          | 4,000          |
| (8) Postage   | 1,200          | 1,200          |
| (9) Telephone (Cell/Office)   | 6,500          | 6,500          |
| (10) Professional Fees (Legal, Bank, CPA, Audit)                              | 28,550         | 39,250         |
| (11) Kings Pointe Condo Fees  | 4,200          | 4,200          |
| (12) Custodial Supplies   | 350            | 350            |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>83,200</b>  | <b>93,900</b>  |
| c. District Expenses  |                |                |
| Conferences/Seminars/Events   | 44,200         | 44,200         |
| District Assembly   | 10,000         | 10,000         |
| Global Assembly   | 0.00           | 3,920          |
| District Meetings   | 13,775         | 13,775         |
| Gifts/Flowers   | 1,500          | 1,500          |
| Miscellaneous   | 1,000          | 1,000          |
| District Cottage Managed Properties   | 3,000          | 3,000          |
| Family Camp Expenses  | 25,000         | 22,500         |
| ILNC Subsidy  | 15,000         | 15,000         |
| Pastor's Kids' Camp Scholarships  | 4,500          | 4,500          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>117,975</b> | <b>118,765</b> |
| <b>Operations Total</b>   | <b>200,875</b> | <b>212,665</b> |
| <b>District People + Operations Total</b>                                     | <b>520,267</b> | <b>505,318</b> |
| 30. That the District EIF be:   | 520,267        | 505,318        |
| 31. That the Missional Area/Strengthening/Expanding EIF be:                   | 44,500         | 2,500          |
| 32. That the NDI EIF be:  | 48,750         | 47,710         |
| 33. That the NYI EIF be:  | 44,500         | 42,860         |
| 34. That the NMI EIF be:  | 35,925         | 33,235         |
| 34. That the Nazarene Bible College Partners be:                              | 14,000         | 0              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>707,942</b> | <b>631,623</b> |

*Respectively submitted,*

REV. BRAD DYRNESS, *Chairman*

REV. REBECCA GRAHAM, *Secretary*

MICHIGAN DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE  
End of the Year Report | June 2023 - May 2024 P&L

|  | June 2023 - May<br>2024 | Annual Budget     |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>                           |                         |                   |
| <b>Income</b>  |                         |                   |
| 4000 · Income/Eternal Investment Funds                   | 683,438.74              | 631,623.00        |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                      | <b>683,438.74</b>       | <b>631,623.00</b> |
| <b>Gross Profit</b>                                      | <b>699,852.75</b>       | <b>631,623.00</b> |
| <b>Expense</b>   |                         |                   |
| 5000-5500 · District Salaries & Expenses                 | 290,583.79              | 294,708.92        |
| 5700 · District Insurance                                | 6,017.23                | 6,350.00          |
| 5800 · Bank Service Charges                              | (9.50)                  | 0.00              |
| 6000 · District Owned Properties                         | 39,091.04               | 39,400.00         |
| 6060 · Office Equipment                                  | 9,768.79                | 11,700.00         |
| 6080 · Postage   | 264.86                  | 1,200.00          |
| 6090 · Telephone (Office/Cell)                           | 6,377.20                | 6,500.00          |
| 6100 · Professional Fees                                 | 34,305.71               | 39,250.00         |
| 6200 · Depreciation Expense                              | 36,934.08               | 0.00              |
| 6300 · Custodial   | 2,144.84                | 2,556.00          |
| 6600 · Payroll Expenses                                  | 4,711.28                | 169.00            |
| 7000 · Misc Expenses                                     | 4,720.00                | 1,000.00          |
| 7010 · Conferences/Seminars                              | 2,490.58                | 7,290.00          |
| 7017 · CONNECTING  | 51,500.56               | 40,200.00         |
| 7050 · District Meetings                                 | 11,271.46               | 13,775.00         |
| 7120 · District Managed Properties                       | 150,996.54              | 0.00              |
| 7130 · ILNC District Activities                          | 52,836.27               | 22,500.00         |
| 7140 · NMI Fund Expenses                                 | 24,232.00               | 27,760.00         |
| 7300 · NYI Fund Expenses                                 | 99,296.71               | 42,860.00         |
| 7500 · NDI Fund Expenses                                 | 26,623.46               | 47,710.00         |
| 7600 · STRENGTHENING & EXPANDING                         | 77,045.33               | 42,500.00         |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                                     | <b>926,121.52</b>       | <b>639,428.92</b> |
| <b>Net Ordinary Income</b>                               | <b>(226,268.77)</b>     | <b>(7,805.92)</b> |
| <b>Other Income/Expense</b>                              |                         |                   |
| <b>Other Income</b>                                      |                         |                   |
| 4500 · Investments                                       | 89,295.75               | 0.00              |
| 4505 · Other Income - Designated In                      | 661,886.25              | 0.00              |
| <b>Total Other Income</b>                                | <b>751,182.00</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       |
| <b>Other Expense</b>                                     |                         |                   |
| 4510 · Other Expenses - Designated Out                   | 421,148.92              | 0.00              |
| <b>Total Other Expense</b>                               | <b>421,148.82</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       |
| <b>Net Other Income</b>                                  | <b>330,033.18</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       |
| <b>Net Income</b>  | <b>103,764.41</b>       | <b>(7,805.92)</b> |
|  | 63759.43                |                   |
| <i>* Used from Designated Savings Funds</i>              |                         |                   |
| <i>*Less Property Contributions of 2 Closed Churches</i> | 93,737.09               |                   |
| <b>Final Net Income Less Savings/Church Property</b>     | <b>73,786.75</b>        | <b>(7,805.92)</b> |

# District Balance Sheet—May 31, 2024

|   | May 31, 2024        |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                           |                     |
| Current Assets                          |                     |
| Bank Accounts                           |                     |
| 1000 Fifth Third Bank Checking          | 142,872.53          |
| 1001 EFTPs Checking Account             | 1,000.00            |
| 1006 Wesleyan Investment - Reserves     | 44,976.79           |
| 1007 Morgan Stanley - Reserves          | 985,945.86          |
| 1008 CD - Reserves                      | 424,919.82          |
| Total Bank Accounts                     | 1,599,715.00        |
| Accounts Receivable                     |                     |
| 1100 Accounts Receivable                | 137,864.15          |
| Total Accounts Receivable               | 137,864.15          |
| Other Current Assets                    |                     |
| 2901 Loan for ILNC ExecDir Home         | 144,957.32          |
| Total Other Current Assets              | 199,354.55          |
| Total Current Assets                    | 1,936,933.70        |
| Fixed Assets                            |                     |
| 1500 Building                           | 729,500.55          |
| 1515 Land                               | 100,000.00          |
| 1520 Furniture and Equipment            | 103,000.00          |
| 1525 Vehicle for DS                     | 51,480.00           |
| 1530 Less Accumulated Depreciation      | (446,467.46)        |
| Total Fixed Assets                      | 537,513.09          |
| Other Assets                            |                     |
| 1150.19 Pledge Rec-East Jax-Church/Pars | 557,000.00          |
| 1150.20 Pledge Rec-Ionia-Church/Pars    | 982,000.00          |
| 1700 Restricted Net Asset - Bushey      | 16,414.01           |
| Total Other Assets                      | 1,555,414.01        |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                     | <b>4,029,860.80</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>           |                     |
| Liabilities                             |                     |
| Current Liabilities                     |                     |
| Accounts Payable                        |                     |
| 2000 Accounts Payable                   | (370.00)            |
| Total Accounts Payable                  | (370.00)            |
| Other Current Liabilities               |                     |
| 2200 Payroll Liabilities                | 705.63              |
| 2400 District Reserves                  | 11,947.00           |
| Total Current Liabilities               | 9,252.45            |
| Total Liabilities                       | 9,252.45            |
| Equity                                  |                     |
| 3010 Restricted Net Assets - Bushey     | 16,414.01           |
| 3020 Restricted Auxiliary Funds         | 69,689.12           |
| 3200 Unrestricted Net Assets            | 3,033,141.73        |
| 3202 Unrestricted - Reserve Army        | 724,766.09          |
| 3205 Unrestricted - Reserves            | 72,832.99           |
| Net Revenue                             | 103,764.41          |
| Total Equity                            | <b>4,020,608.35</b> |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>     | <b>4,029,860.80</b> |

# Michigan District Funding The Mission 2023-2024

## Michigan District | Funding the Mission 2023-2024

Report as of 06.26.24

| Church                          | YTD Income     | WEF         | NBUSA       | ONU         | District    | Grand Total  |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Albion                          | \$26,818.03    | \$1,302.14  | \$622.19    | \$622.19    | \$1,475.27  | \$4,021.79   |
| Alma                            | \$0.00         | \$98.75     | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$98.75      |
| Battle Creek First              | \$155,834.00   | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$10,256.04 | \$10,256.04  |
| Bay City Faith                  | \$61,679.88    | \$7,003.99  | \$1,485.67  | \$0.00      | \$3,287.63  | \$11,777.29  |
| Bay City First                  | \$56,928.84    | \$7,003.99  | \$1,485.67  | \$1,212.74  | \$2,964.49  | \$12,666.89  |
| Buchanan                        | \$56,031.27    | \$504.00    | \$200.00    | \$200.00    | \$400.00    | \$1,304.00   |
| Chapman Memorial                | \$546,057.38   | \$28,285.08 | \$11,612.20 | \$11,612.20 | \$28,385.38 | \$79,894.86  |
| Coldwater                       | \$102,156.00   | \$5,308.00  | \$2,172.00  | \$2,172.00  | \$5,308.00  | \$14,960.00  |
| Connection Point                | \$342,255.85   | \$17,838.96 | \$7,327.17  | \$6,983.77  | \$17,071.49 | \$49,221.39  |
| Corey                           | \$101,022.38   | \$5,831.23  | \$2,273.03  | \$2,272.98  | \$5,556.23  | \$15,933.47  |
| Corunna                         | \$38,001.00    | \$1,720.11  | \$834.79    | \$781.38    | \$1,655.63  | \$4,991.91   |
| Cross Community                 | \$407,785.57   | \$21,308.05 | \$8,412.43  | \$8,412.43  | \$20,564.04 | \$58,696.95  |
| Durand                          | \$251,989.37   | \$13,259.54 | \$5,424.44  | \$5,424.44  | \$13,259.54 | \$37,367.96  |
| Eaton Rapids                    | \$147,545.06   | \$7,659.11  | \$3,133.27  | \$3,133.27  | \$7,659.11  | \$21,584.76  |
| Ebenezer                        | \$60,126.00    | \$1,984.23  | \$1,080.33  | \$1,080.33  | \$2,821.57  | \$6,966.46   |
| Elmdale                         | \$95,847.00    | \$4,554.21  | \$2,081.59  | \$2,081.59  | \$5,499.49  | \$14,216.88  |
| Found                           | \$251,984.00   | \$13,134.41 | \$5,385.13  | \$5,385.13  | \$13,185.06 | \$37,089.73  |
| Grand Haven                     | \$111,440.77   | \$5,198.05  | \$2,313.47  | \$1,966.99  | \$4,808.17  | \$14,286.68  |
| Grand Ledge                     | \$226,450.20   | \$12,005.84 | \$4,935.26  | \$4,935.26  | \$12,063.99 | \$33,940.35  |
| Grand Rapids Clyde Park         | \$155,922.68   | \$8,075.31  | \$3,303.54  | \$1,000.00  | \$8,075.31  | \$20,454.16  |
| GRIF                            | \$1,022,639.96 | \$52,912.88 | \$21,646.18 | \$21,646.18 | \$52,912.88 | \$149,118.12 |
| Grand Rapids NE Community       | \$48,620.43    | \$2,719.73  | \$1,112.00  | \$1,035.00  | \$2,531.00  | \$7,397.73   |
| Grand Rapids West International | \$55,880.00    | \$377.60    | \$135.00    | \$135.00    | \$330.00    | \$977.60     |
| Greenville                      | \$30,929.00    | \$982.00    | \$328.00    | \$328.00    | \$801.00    | \$2,439.00   |
| Hastings                        | \$115,768.00   | \$3,483.50  | \$250.00    | \$250.00    | \$5,918.37  | \$9,901.87   |
| High Pointe Community           | \$643,085.30   | \$35,472.27 | \$14,629.57 | \$14,629.57 | \$35,472.27 | \$100,203.68 |
| Hillsdale                       | \$96,915.89    | \$5,336.00  | \$2,188.00  | \$2,188.00  | \$5,336.00  | \$15,048.00  |
| Holt                            | \$56,415.03    | \$188.00    | \$100.00    | \$100.00    | \$200.00    | \$588.00     |
| Jackson First                   | \$1,703,198.38 | \$86,860.95 | \$35,534.02 | \$35,534.02 | \$86,860.95 | \$244,789.94 |
| Journey of Grace                | \$27,887.21    | \$1,451.64  | \$593.85    | \$593.85    | \$1,451.64  | \$4,090.98   |
| Kalamazoo South Side            | \$63,073.61    | \$3,274.00  | \$1,343.50  | \$1,343.50  | \$3,274.00  | \$9,235.00   |
| Lansing First                   | \$49,567.25    | \$2,541.96  | \$1,054.51  | \$1,054.41  | \$2,541.96  | \$7,192.84   |
| Lansing International           | \$41,500.00    | \$98.75     | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$694.20    | \$792.95     |
| Lansing South                   | \$808,925.16   | \$39,110.90 | \$16,014.58 | \$16,014.58 | \$38,990.90 | \$110,130.96 |
| Lansing Woodview                | \$128,760.32   | \$6,628.00  | \$2,898.00  | \$2,898.00  | \$7,082.00  | \$19,506.00  |
| Lighthouse                      | \$26,104.31    | \$0.00      | \$587.35    | \$0.00      | \$1,435.74  | \$2,023.09   |
| Lowell                          | \$71,095.78    | \$3,704.22  | \$1,554.50  | \$1,554.50  | \$3,799.88  | \$10,613.10  |
| Mason First                     | \$0.00         | \$28,645.00 | \$11,720.00 | \$11,720.00 | \$28,645.00 | \$80,730.00  |
| Midland Bethel                  | \$76,027.61    | \$3,656.53  | \$1,495.85  | \$1,495.85  | \$3,656.53  | \$10,304.76  |
| Midland Community               | \$595,615.41   | \$27,936.06 | \$11,486.06 | \$11,580.55 | \$28,674.92 | \$79,677.59  |
| Midland Nease Memorial          | \$79,803.37    | \$4,332.27  | \$1,772.29  | \$1,772.29  | \$4,332.27  | \$12,209.12  |
| Mount Pleasant Faith Indian     | \$62,526.00    | \$98.75     | \$200.00    | \$100.00    | \$100.00    | \$498.75     |

# Michigan District Funding The Mission 2023-2024

## Michigan District | Funding the Mission 2023-2024

Report as of 06.26.24

| Church               | YTD Income   | WEF         | NBUSA       | ONU         | District    | Grand Total |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Mount Pleasant First | \$166,516.82 | \$8,675.76  | \$3,549.17  | \$3,549.17  | \$8,675.76  | \$24,449.86 |
| Muskegon Breakwater  | \$151,237.00 | \$6,801.33  | \$3,175.42  | \$3,175.42  | \$7,762.13  | \$20,914.30 |
| Nashville            | \$187,268.91 | \$10,900.85 | \$3,968.28  | \$3,968.28  | \$9,700.24  | \$28,537.65 |
| New Faith            | \$59,154.98  | \$3,547.02  | \$1,576.30  | \$1,612.31  | \$3,547.01  | \$10,282.64 |
| New Life             | \$39,344.60  | \$2,051.14  | \$885.25    | \$839.10    | \$2,051.14  | \$5,826.63  |
| New Lothrop          | \$422,338.27 | \$3,428.69  | \$9,424.52  | \$9,641.11  | \$23,273.41 | \$45,767.73 |
| Okemos               | \$47,274.00  | \$2,230.43  | \$799.36    | \$983.49    | \$2,535.23  | \$6,548.51  |
| Owosso City          | \$44,800.24  | \$2,726.73  | \$1,115.48  | \$1,115.48  | \$2,464.01  | \$7,421.70  |
| Owosso First         | \$677,611.46 | \$36,031.91 | \$14,249.42 | \$14,249.42 | \$34,831.91 | \$99,362.66 |
| Perry                | \$477,490.34 | \$24,805.44 | \$10,194.45 | \$10,194.45 | \$24,919.76 | \$70,114.10 |
| Portland             | \$99,711.99  | \$5,153.42  | \$2,108.22  | \$2,108.22  | \$5,153.42  | \$14,523.28 |
| Restoration 58:12    | \$68,472.13  | \$3,569.64  | \$1,540.62  | \$0.00      | \$3,765.97  | \$8,876.23  |
| Saginaw First        | \$64,006.58  | \$3,771.25  | \$1,440.14  | \$1,440.14  | \$3,520.36  | \$10,171.89 |
| Saginaw Swan Valley  | \$25,806.00  | \$150.00    | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$150.00    |
| Saginaw Valley       | \$194,938.63 | \$12,037.00 | \$4,386.12  | \$4,493.89  | \$10,985.06 | \$31,902.07 |
| Saint Johns          | \$65,162.00  | \$2,557.70  | \$1,460.07  | \$1,460.07  | \$3,569.07  | \$9,046.91  |
| Sparta               | \$369,906.74 | \$22,501.30 | \$8,322.90  | \$8,322.90  | \$20,344.88 | \$59,491.98 |
| Spring Arbor         | \$170,002.24 | \$8,803.84  | \$3,587.49  | \$3,817.49  | \$8,803.84  | \$25,012.66 |
| Sturgis              | \$250,422.25 | \$14,698.89 | \$5,297.18  | \$5,297.18  | \$12,877.37 | \$38,170.62 |
| Sumner Center        | \$64,821.37  | \$2,504.84  | \$599.00    | \$383.00    | \$936.00    | \$4,422.84  |
| Three Rivers         | \$280,426.00 | \$14,517.40 | \$5,938.94  | \$5,938.94  | \$14,517.40 | \$40,912.68 |
| Williamston          | \$16,352.61  | \$1,430.00  | \$350.00    | \$350.00    | \$990.00    | \$3,120.00  |

# Indian Lake Nazarene Camp

## Indian Lake Nazarene Camp Budget vs. Actuals: FY\_2023 - FY23 P&L January - December 2023

|  | Total                 |                      |                      | % of<br>Budget |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
|  | Actual                | Budget               | over Budget          |                |
| <b>Income</b>  |                       |                      |                      |                |
| Total 4001 Contributions and Donations               | \$ 130,426.04         | \$ 65,000.00         | \$ 65,426.04         | 200.66%        |
| Total 4101 Michigan District                         | \$ 13,898.29          | \$ 25,200.00         | -\$ 11,301.71        | 55.15%         |
| Total 4301 Administrative/Misc                       | \$ 22,008.19          | \$ 6,700.00          | \$ 15,308.19         | 328.48%        |
| Total 4501 Leaseholder(LH) Quarterly Sewer (deleted) | \$ 2,151.08           | \$ 0.00              | \$ 2,151.08          |                |
| Total 4512 Leaseholder (LH) Service Fees             | \$ 162,474.63         | \$ 168,606.00        | -\$ 6,131.37         | 96.36%         |
| Total 4601 Water Front Operations                    | \$ 75,984.72          | \$ 77,155.00         | -\$ 1,170.28         | 98.48%         |
| Total 4701 Rentals/Equipment                         | \$ 415,273.46         | \$ 326,775.00        | \$ 88,498.46         | 127.08%        |
| Total 4801 MI Nazarene Camp                          | \$ 2,512.48           | \$ 68,880.00         | -\$ 66,367.52        | 3.65%          |
| Total 4900 Food Service Income                       | \$ 238,470.71         | \$ 205,470.00        | \$ 33,000.71         | 116.06%        |
| 4950 Camp Store Merchandise                          | 16,390.35             | 5,000.00             | 11,390.35            | 327.81%        |
| Total 5000 Carryover                                 | \$ 0.00               | \$ 15,000.00         | -\$ 15,000.00        | 0.00%          |
| Discount Income                                      | -303.68               | 0.00                 | -303.68              |                |
| Discounts given                                      | -15.00                | 0.00                 | -15.00               |                |
| Unapplied Cash Payment Revenue                       | 876.73                | 0.00                 | 876.73               |                |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                  | <b>\$1,080,148.00</b> | <b>\$ 963,786.00</b> | <b>\$ 116,362.00</b> | <b>112.07%</b> |
| <b>Gross Profit</b>                                  | <b>\$1,080,148.00</b> | <b>\$ 963,786.00</b> | <b>\$ 116,362.00</b> | <b>112.07%</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                      |                       |                      |                      |                |
| Total 6001 Camp Administrative Expense               | \$ 176,617.39         | \$ 167,526.00        | \$ 9,091.39          | 105.43%        |
| Total 6101 Professional Expenses                     | \$ 35,099.22          | \$ 40,000.00         | -\$ 4,900.78         | 87.75%         |
| 6120 Camp Board Meeting Exp                          | 960.23                | 1,000.00             | -39.77               | 96.02%         |
| 6150 Payroll Expenses                                | 3,580.22              | 0.00                 | 3,580.22             |                |
| Total 6151 Payroll Expense                           | -\$ 501.26            | \$ 0.00              | -\$ 501.26           |                |
| 6153 Sales Tax Adjustment                            | 21.09                 | 0.00                 | 21.09                |                |
| 6155 Depreciation Expense                            | 15,943.41             | 0.00                 | 15,943.41            |                |
| 6156 Loan Interest                                   | 3,788.04              | 0.00                 | 3,788.04             |                |
| Total 6201 Waterfront                                | \$ 5,208.59           | \$ 1,500.00          | \$ 3,708.59          | 347.24%        |
| Total 6301 Business/Office Services                  | \$ 38,296.82          | \$ 45,300.00         | -\$ 7,003.18         | 84.54%         |
| Total 6401 Operations                                | \$ 177,987.41         | \$ 188,757.00        | -\$ 10,769.59        | 94.29%         |
| Total 6501 Food Service Expenses                     | \$ 249,775.37         | \$ 220,754.00        | \$ 29,021.37         | 113.15%        |
| 6600 Bad Debt  | 212.56                | 0.00                 | 212.56               |                |
| Total 6701 Hospitality Services                      | \$ 45,611.53          | \$ 33,194.00         | \$ 12,417.53         | 137.41%        |
| Total 6801 Camp Programming                          | \$ 98,323.92          | \$ 64,182.00         | \$ 34,141.92         | 153.20%        |
| 6901 Camp Store Merchandise Expenses                 | 13,422.37             | 5,000.00             | 8,422.37             | 268.45%        |
| 7001 ILNC Sponsored Event                            | 1,151.74              | 2,000.00             | -848.26              | 57.59%         |
| 7002 Leaseholder Assoc annual suppor                 | 1,000.00              | 0.00                 | 1,000.00             |                |
| Total 7101 Utilities Expense                         | \$ 62,014.49          | \$ 77,375.00         | -\$ 15,360.51        | 80.15%         |

# Indian Lake Nazarene Camp

|   |                       |                      |                      |                |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Total 7201 Township Taxes</b>                  | <b>\$ 7,004.93</b>    | <b>\$ 6,400.00</b>   | <b>\$ 604.93</b>     | <b>109.45%</b> |
| <b>Total 7301 Quarterly Sewer Usage</b>           | <b>\$ 42,695.61</b>   | <b>\$ 35,000.00</b>  | <b>\$ 7,695.61</b>   | <b>121.99%</b> |
| <b>Total 7401 ILNC Water Supply Operating Exp</b> | <b>\$ 18,121.81</b>   | <b>\$ 10,000.00</b>  | <b>\$ 8,121.81</b>   | <b>181.22%</b> |
| <b>Total 7501 ILNC/MI District Insurance</b>      | <b>\$ 65,845.97</b>   | <b>\$ 30,400.00</b>  | <b>\$ 35,445.97</b>  | <b>216.60%</b> |
| <b>Total 7601 Licenses/Permits/Dues/Fees</b>      | <b>\$ 3,645.00</b>    | <b>\$ 4,700.00</b>   | <b>-\$ 1,055.00</b>  | <b>77.55%</b>  |
| <b>Total 7701 RV Operations</b>                   | <b>\$ 4,295.00</b>    | <b>\$ 18,700.00</b>  | <b>-\$ 14,405.00</b> | <b>22.97%</b>  |
| <b>Total 7802 Capital Outlay</b>                  | <b>\$ 9,267.43</b>    | <b>\$ 10,000.00</b>  | <b>-\$ 732.57</b>    | <b>92.67%</b>  |
| <b>9001 Reconciliation Discrepancies</b>          | -1.05                 | 0.00                 | -1.05                |                |
| <b>Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expenditure</b>    | -2,552.76             | 0.00                 | -2,552.76            |                |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                             | <b>\$1,076,835.08</b> | <b>\$ 961,788.00</b> | <b>\$ 115,047.08</b> | <b>111.96%</b> |
| <b>Net Operating Income</b>                       | <b>\$ 3,312.92</b>    | <b>\$ 1,998.00</b>   | <b>\$ 1,314.92</b>   | <b>165.81%</b> |
| <b>Total Other Income</b>                         | <b>\$ 13.51</b>       | <b>\$ 0.00</b>       | <b>\$ 13.51</b>      |                |
| <b>Net Other Income</b>                           | <b>\$ 13.51</b>       | <b>\$ 0.00</b>       | <b>\$ 13.51</b>      |                |
| <b>Net Income</b>                                 | <b>\$ 3,326.43</b>    | <b>\$ 1,998.00</b>   | <b>\$ 1,328.43</b>   | <b>166.49%</b> |

Tuesday, Jan 16, 2024 08:16:59 AM GMT-8 - Cash Basis

# Section 5

## Local Church Reports

### Pastor's Written Reports

In continuing the four-fold purpose strategy of the MINaz District of being people who **pray, connect** in community, **strengthen** the church, and **expand** to minister outside the church into our communities, pastors were asked to share how their church has expanded into the community beyond their congregation. If they received an “others grant”, how was it used?



2024



# ALBION

**Revs. Kevin & Rena Barrett (1/24)**

## Co-Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 1   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 2   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 34  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$53,702 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

The Albion church of the Nazarene is reaching into the local community by Celebrate Recovery. Consequently we have men and women coming into the church that normally would be staying away. We continue to reach out to these people with follow ups and encouragement. Furthermore, we are currently forming a group of people that will be meeting with the local people to discover the needs and how we as a church body can directly plug into the needs of the local businesses, schools and people of the Albion community. Furthermore, people will get to know who we are, what we believe, and they will physically be able to see how the Albion church of the Nazarene is making an impact in the local community.



# ALMA

**Pastor Tom & Karina Dixon (6/24)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 11  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | NO       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 19  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$21,617 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

District Assembly,

This will be my final report. This past year has been one of change for our church. We have continued to learn how we are meant to be involved within the community. As we have meditated on this endeavor, we have been challenged. We continue to offer our community garden that feeds our neighbors and we have our annual warming station for Halloween where we have seen over 180 people come and find rest during a particularly snowy trick or treating. We are also working to expand our Thanksgiving meal to more people who are alone on Thanksgiving day within our community because we believe that people should not be isolated. There is more to come but I will allow the new pastor to explain all of that.

During this process, God showed me just how broken our society is and how the church is not moving as quickly as it should to meet the needs. We are in a mental health crisis and so I will be stepping down from my position in Alma in order to gain my masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. One of the greatest needs outside (and honestly inside) the church's doors is for theologically sound, clinically approved therapists. I cannot split my time anymore and so instead of only partially leading the church, I am handing over the stole to a friend. Please welcome Pastor Thomas Dixon, the new pastor of Alma Church of the Nazarene.

Pastor Ben Beck

Greetings Michigan District,

I am excited for the opportunity to join the Alma family. As I write this report, I have been in my new office for a whole three days and I have yet to preach my first official Sunday. What better way to celebrate than to gather information for annual reports. In this short time, I have met some wonderful people, and I am eager for what God has in store for the community of Alma.

Shalom,  
Pastor Tom Dixon



# BATTLE CREEK FIRST

**Rev. Mike & Kami Whitten (6/24)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | NO        | Number of New Believers                  | 30  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | NO        | Number of Baptisms                       | 1   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 70  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$219,033 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Our church has been in transition throughout most of the year, but the Lord is still using the church in our community!

Our biggest outreach into our community is through our First Kids Learning Center (FKLC) daycare. Our NDI council hosted a Fall Festival for the FKLC families with an emphasis on the church serving our community. We had 25 church and FKLC volunteers serve the FKLC families with a fun day to enjoy time together as families. We had over 100 kids, parents, and grandparents attend the festival.

This year we had 30 children that asked Jesus into their hearts, and 50 children re-dedicate their lives for Jesus. At our FKLC Christmas program, we had over 350 people from the community in attendance with standing room only. We had 96 students participate in sharing the message of Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ, to their friends and families. Through our ministry, we've had another daycare family also join in attending our church.

On Wednesday nights, we have a group of school age children that meet at the church. They have participated in several outreach projects this year including making cards for local nursing homes, care packages for the homeless, care baskets for church members going through loss and life changes, and helping cleaning up around the church and daycare.

We are excited to welcome our new lead pastor Rev. Mike Whitten and are looking forward to continuing to expand into the community beyond our church doors!

Rev. Hanna George



# BAY CITY FAITH

**Rev. Dwight & Karen Kingsbury (11/98)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 5   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | NO       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 9   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 83  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$61,680 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Faith Church is and has always been a body that has helped to reach out to people such as The Foster Families of Bay County through the director and owner we personally know, and we have supplied many items needed for children and infants to other organizations also.

For 35 years now I have ministered to the Saginaw Rescue Mission in supporting them and holding monthly services in the chapel. I have seen many men and women come to a saving knowledge of Christ and have had the pleasure of one-on-one conversations with many of the residents after chapel.

I have reached out to the community as a loving and caring pastor to all types of people in all walks of life. I have done my best to show JESUS in every word I say and every step I take, loving people right where their at.

I thank God for a loving congregation who does the same as they come in contact with souls in the community.

Our church is vitally concerned about all who walk through these doors. I have emphasized to NOT see in people what Satan wants us to see but instead to see what Christ longs for us to see;--a soul that will spend an eternity in one of two places. Let's introduce them to Christ.

Serving the Master,  
Rev. Dwight W. Kingsbury



# BAY CITY FIRST

**Rev. Danny & Sara Bledsoe (4/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 3   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 45  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$258,009 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

This year has been one of profound change and growth for our church. When I joined as pastor in January 2021, it became clear that our financial situation was more precarious than initially thought. Despite our best efforts to address the debt from our building's new addition, it became evident that selling the building was the only viable option. After 18 months on the market, we successfully closed the sale on May 30, 2024.

Losing our building has been an emotional journey, marked by uncertainty and the departure of some members. However, it has also opened new doors and strengthened our resolve. The Good Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City has graciously offered us their chapel for our weekly worship services. Meeting at 3:00 pm instead of our traditional morning service has required adaptation. Still, it has also provided us with a unique opportunity to immerse ourselves more deeply in the community we aim to serve.

Our presence at the mission allows us to directly engage with those in need, embodying our vision of being a church without walls—one that serves the community from within. Instead of inviting people to come to us, we are now a church of people actively working in the community.

This year also marked our third annual "Scripture in the City" event, in partnership with Narrow Path Christian Church BC. Starting on Pentecost, we read the entire Bible aloud over the city, a continuous 90-hour effort shared among our members and the broader community. Hosting this event at the Broadway Family Grill, with enthusiastic support from the owner and staff, significantly expanded our outreach. Community members and passersby joined us in reading and participating in revival worship services, creating a spirit-filled and inclusive atmosphere.

Additionally, the sale of our building has brought unexpected blessings. The buyers, Christians themselves, are opening a center to support children with autism. Learning about their mission and values during a shared dinner brought great comfort to our congregation, knowing the space will continue to serve the community in meaningful ways.

Despite the trials of the past year, we have witnessed incredible faith and resilience within our congregation. The transition has not been easy, and we faced setbacks, including a failed merger with another local church. However, our commitment to serving the community remains unwavering. Through our trials, we have become more adaptable and more determined to fulfill our mission of love, service, and outreach.

As we continue this journey, we are grateful for the steadfast support of our members and the new opportunities to serve our community. We look forward to the coming year with hope and faith, trusting that God's plan will continue to guide and bless our efforts.



# BUCHANAN

**Revs. Brendan & Arika Shea (7/18)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 10  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 2   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 2   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 49  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$58,082 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

This year we have expanded our ministry beyond the church doors by continuing to serve, love and be an active part in our community. One of the big ways we did this was through the "Blessing Our Community Grant." We have a school that touches our church property and this year it has become known that the staff and faculty were getting badly burnt out. Our goal as a church was to encourage them and let them know that they are loved and prayed for. We ended up getting every staff and faculty member at this school an individually wrapped cookie from a bakery, a small arrangement of flowers, and a 10 dollar gift card with a thank you card.

Another way we are expanding our ministry, is also by giving more attention to the inward focused programs at our church by more effectively delegating tasks. While this sounds like the opposite of community engagement, I believe this is necessary for us to reach our community more effectively. Our church is made up of almost entirely new people (there are only 3 people who have been here longer than 5 years). While this is a huge blessing, it also creates challenges because it is easy for the church mind set to become "I attend this church" rather than "this is my church." Our goal is to make it so 100% of the church is doing 100% of the ministry within the church. We believe this will be a huge way that we expand discipleship, teens, kids and our community engagement. Instead of having a few leaders, we want to have many within our church that bring God's kingdom in Buchanan as it is in heaven.

Finally, looking forward we are in the very early stages of planning to start a coffee ministry at our church. Buchanan is a lower income area and does not have a ton of places for people to gather, have meaningful conversations, and enjoy it over a drink of coffee or a snack for free. We are thinking of just having everything be donation based or free. We believe this would be an amazing way for us to host our community and show them they are loved.

As we look at what God has done this past year we are beyond grateful and look forward to how He will continue to move.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brendan Shea



# BYRON CENTER HIGH POINTE

**Rev. Tim & Mary Nelson (9/17)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 3   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 40  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 8   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 184 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$669,490 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

"I am the bread of life..." John 6:35

This year we have opened our doors to the community, offering the Bread of Life in these ways...

1. **Hand 2 Hand** - delivering 274 bags of food to two area elementary schools each week with a prayer for them to find Christ.
2. Each week on Thursday nights, our **Celebrate Recovery** ministry serves those coming out of hopeless situations and finding Jesus to be their one true hope.
3. Each Wednesday night, we opened our doors through **AWANA** and served 35 kids with the word of God and lots of fun!
4. This week we prep for **VBS** and have 135 registered with one week to go before the event!
5. We **paid off our debt** on the building and are prioritizing more money toward kids and youth.
6. Hosting **quarterly "family"** outreach game nights for youth and kids ministries.

Hoping for a wonderful harvest for God's glory!

Blessings,  
Pastor Tim @ HP



# CHARLOTTE NEW FAITH

**Rev. Tom & Jackie Surdenik (7/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 4   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 7   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 42  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$68,542 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Creating a culture of Radical Love within the community in which we are placed has become the motto and mission of New Faith Church of the Nazarene. In a community that primarily saw our church as a small church without an outsider focus, we have begun to break this mold.

Charlotte for a long time been dominated by a rural farming environment thus allowing for separation with in the community to be the norm, with that being said, we are also seeing the relationship with the School District, community outreach and other mentoring programs begin to produce a greater sense of community. We have maintained the focus found in John 4 outlining the importance of what we call the "Come and See" method while also staying true to the command of Christ which is "Go and Make".

Over the last year our community outreach has really started to bring in the harvest. Our small church has changed the way that the larger churches in our community see our city. It is now normal for Outreach events such as "I Love My Town", "Project Serve", "One Blessing", and or "Light Up the Night" to be imitated, which we are extremely blessed by. The Apostle Paul shares this same heart, "Imitate me as I imitate Christ"

While watching the other churches believe in what we have been doing is an encouragement to our people. But it is not the only exciting thing going on around here. The Holy Spirit has been opening door after door in our neighborhoods. Our congregation has begun to belief that we are called to be a reconciling follower of Christ. Once they began to see the momentum caused by reaching out and sharing the burdens of life with their neighbors, they began to see their responsibilities as Christ followers, as a LIFE changing encounter.

What started with a model of ministry – Belong- Believe- Behave – Become has now overflowed into everything around us. Our goal at New Faith has shifted from finding a way into our community to RIDING the wave of the Holy Spirit throughout our community...Wherever, Whenever, However He leads we will be following. New Faith Church of the Nazarene was birthed in prayer and is maintained by prayer. Please let us know how we can pray for you!



# COLDWATER

**Rev. Rob & Kim Lewis (7/22)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 5   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 3   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 109 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$102,156 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Greetings,

It has been my honor to serve as pastor at Coldwater since July 2022. When we moved there a friend of mine commented, "Coldwater? That's a bunch of corn farmers." After unloading the U-Haul I went down to the local Walmart to get a few things and before I reached the dairy section I heard: Arabic, Spanish, Hindi, Haitian Creole, and of course English because we do have some corn farmers. This past year I dedicated more Haitian babies than any others.

Loving our diverse community is not an issue, language and culture are a challenge we are willing to engage in.

In January I began leading Adult Discipleship Development offering workshops for the pre-believer, new believer and bible curious.

Coldwater Church of the Nazarene will be 62 years old this year, and so will I. My optimism about the future has never been greater.

Respectfully,  
Rob Lewis



# COREY

**Rev. PJ & Abbi Horn (4/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 13  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 81  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$96,770 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

### Corey Church of the Nazarene Handbook Report

As a church we continue to make powerful connections and partnerships with a number of groups in our community. For several years now we have partnered with our local elementary school in various ways. And this year we began an Adopt-a-Classroom ministry where individuals from our church have partnered with the teachers of the school. We have 15 church members who are ministering to these teachers. Several of which have been invited by the teachers to come into the school on a regular basis to help. In addition to this we have had the school reach out to us about using our facilities as a meeting place for their 3rd and 1st grade pen-pal program. So the relationship with our local elementary has progressed to a relational partnership and that is very exciting.

Another partnership that continues to grow is with our local recovery facility in Three Rivers. This is a women's recovery facility. We have some church members who are ministering directly at the facility and have also had the opportunity to host some events for the ladies at our facilities. Like our partnership with our local elementary, this one as well continues to grow into a relational partnership. We believe that God is the One fostering these opportunities and continues to make them grow.

Within our church we have seen 13 individuals make confession of faith in Jesus. And in order to teach these and more how to follow Jesus we have started a Discipled by Jesus group that meets every week to practice listening to and being obedient to Jesus. This is by far one of the most life-giving things that we do as a church. The scriptures tells us that there is life in Jesus' voice (Matt. 4:4) and we continue to experience that Truth.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pastor PJ Horn  
Corey Church of the Nazarene



# CORUNNA

**Rev. Doug & Diane Corwin (3/17)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 38  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$38,655 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Corunna Church of the Nazarene is in a state of change at this time. We can no longer use our former Church facilities due to mold issues. However, God has provided us with a new partner Church to assist us while we find a new facility. This new partnership with our brothers and sisters in Christ has given us the ability to combine our people to work together in our community, in the name of Jesus.

We are looking for new ways to develop community partners and friendships. One of our standard programs is to host Al-Anon meetings at our church. We also pass out water during the Corunna 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Our Wednesday night lady's group has attendees from other churches and has led families to know and grow in Christ.

Future plans, include a blessing of the bikes and a men's group. Being a small church we have obstacles because we lack the man power to reach out in the community effectively or on a greater scale. But, with our new partnership with another church we are hopeful that we will be able to do joint projects with adequate man power to make a difference in the community.

Corunna Church of the Nazarene is discussing a new project to make self-care packages for our homeless population in Corunna and Owosso area. This would include toiletries, clean socks and undergarments and shelf stable food items. We are exploring distributing the care packages in the homeless encampments along with church members have a couple care pack in their vehicles for when opportunities arise outside of the homeless encampments.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Doug Corwin  
 Pastor Corunna Church of the Nazarene



# DURAND

**Rev. Nate & Liz Gray (8/22)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 12  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 10  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 15  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 120 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$251,990 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

What a privilege and struggle to shepherd a congregation through revitalization and rebirth! The Lord of the church has guided DurandNaz into a new chapter, characterized by turning our eyes towards his saving, redeeming and restoring activity in our communities. A Spirit led imagination is being cultivated in our people to embrace the mission of making disciples in creative and incarnational ways. We did utilize the others grant to host our annual Barnyard Bash on our grounds at Halloween. We strategically sought to connect with the hundreds who came onto the property. However, we realized we must go and meet community needs not just host events. We had a service in the local park and provided a luncheon, as well as, giving away so many backpacks stuffed with school supplies. This Easter, we joined with other churches in coming alongside our local police department and library for a community Easter party. There were thousands of eggs, bikes and gift cards given away! This has led to a renewed relationship with the police department and future opportunities to invest in our community!

Although still in early stages, we are developing a foundational small group format that has monthly missional activity built into the structure. Each group goes into the community every month and meets real needs. As we all know, discipleship and evangelism are sides of the same coin and through prayer and intentional relationship building we are seeing a move of God! We have burgeoning youth and young adult ministries. I've never seen such a spiritual hunger and desire to see broken friends and loved ones come to the Christ and find healing and wholeness! It's so refreshing to see honesty, curiosity, confession, repentance and genuine transformation. Ask me about Nick's miraculous salvation and redemption story!

Don't get me wrong, it's been brutal and gut wrenching at times. For some reason, we say we want to reach the lost but when they come we don't always want to go to church with them? However, as one board member said, "we can't deny what God is doing and the direction he is leading our church...there is no way we are going back." It's a privilege and a struggle to shepherd this way. We're keeping our eyes on the King and the fruit and evidence of his Kingdom come!

Grace and Peace,  
Nate Gray



# EATON RAPIDS

**Rev. James & Danielle Haldane (7/23)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 4   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 3   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 102 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$147,546 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

“We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps,” (Proverbs 16:17, NLT). I am a big fan of planning. In fact, I entered my new assignment at Eaton Rapids armed with inspiration from Scott Daniels’ book *The First Hundred Days*. My plan was to not make plans for a while...and I failed...or, perhaps, the Lord determined different steps for our church.

We moved to Eaton Rapids over Labor Day weekend, the next weekend a group of us went to the Convoy of Hope training, and the weekend after that we were at the Farmer’s Market using Little Debbie snacks and grape Propel to make connections with our new neighbors.

God directed us to a new mission and a five-year vision for getting out of our church building and into the community, expanding not only where, but also who we reach. We are a church leading people through and to Jesus one at a time. We endeavor to love our neighbors – those where we live, learn, work, and play. We’re also placing intentional emphasis on building community partnerships that will help us reach the two largest and least church-ed demographics in our community: children (birth – high school) and young adults (18-25).

Those partnerships include the local school district, the city parks and rec department, the local nonprofit called Teen Space, and Convoy of Hope. We’re currently in the first of a four-year plan to allocate 10% of our total operating budget to blessing Eaton Rapids. In addition to the 2.5% we budgeted for this year, we applied for the district Others Grant and the Blessing Our Communities grant through the Cycle of Resurgence initiative. We’re using these grant funds and a portion of our budget to host Family Fun Nights every Wednesday this summer.

We had a chance to volunteer during two community events already this summer – running a craft table at “Art in the Park” and supervising the Kid Zone at the City Fourth of July Celebration. In the fall, we will deploy volunteers into two elementary schools and Teen Space at least two days per week, building our way to a daily kingdom presence with students in first through twelfth grade.

We can’t wait to see what the Lord has determined for our next steps!

Joyfully Submitted,

James Haldane



# EBENEZER

**Rev. Pascal & Esther Mugigi (7/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 15  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 51  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 173 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$81,166 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

We have stewardship groups, six small groups from our church. Those groups are the ones who do the visits. They visit other church members and then each group has a day that they meet in their area, or zip codes. They have a service in their area with those who live close to them, and they visit neighbors. Sometimes they meet and they have some coffee or tea then they can talk a little bit and then they can pray or have a small Bible Study in their home group. So that's how we reach our neighbors.

We also invite neighbors and also other teams. It's the pastoral group that is a team and sometimes we use it to track numbers so we can visit especially the newcomers. We have an agreement with Bethany Christian Services where we sign a contract with them every year so if they have newcomers we have plans to go there and visit them and try to help them with whatever they need.

Maybe sometimes they need some clothes, especially in the wintertime. We can give this announcement to the church and the church can contribute some clothes if they have some, or if they have a little money to give we can go shopping and buy some clothes for them.

The other things we do is help them with transportation. That's a big issue. Most of them do not drive or even know how to drive. They don't have a car yet, they don't have a license yet, so we need to help them. Even in our church, we still have those people that don't have transportation. In my garage, I have traffic cones that I can sometimes put those cones out and I can train them how to park and to drive so maybe in the future they can start driving themselves. We take them to doctors' appointments when they have them. We also help them when they first come and don't have the documents they need. We take them to DHS to apply for their documents, to apply for Medicaid and get a Social Security card.

Right this moment we have three guys in our church, and one is walking into the church to get help with transportation to DHS. People are helping with other organizations that help refugees. We help people if they are newcomers, if they go to another church, or if they are members of our church. Some might not be here for long, but they don't have the skills to teach them English. We need to have people who help us teach them to translate Swahili to English so they can get a license from the government. We go with them so we can help translate. Once they get their permit, we can help them learn to drive.

Those are the things we do every day, every day. Just this morning I came from the roads helping some people here. That's what we do.

Pastor Pascal Mugigi



# ELMDALE

**Rev. Bradley & Amy Ashcraft (10/23)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 2   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 35  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$103,407 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Pastor Brad Ashcraft at Elmdale Church of the Nazarene.

This year has been exciting as we look to get outside the church's doors. There have been three big ways we have been out into the community this year. First is our Monday morning prayer time. We have had a person from the community join us in our prayer time, and it has led to him now being a member at Elmdale, and it has brought his family. We also have a gentleman coming from the community who attends another church. He had walked through the parking lot and it began a new relationship.

Next was through the community Good Friday service. We specifically invited Clarksville Bible Church where Pastor Tim and I have begun a relationship and are looking at doing a combined summer picnic. We did have two people that I knew were from the community. I would have liked to have seen more come, but it was the beginning of something new.

Third was speaking at the Memorial Day event in Clarksville. I was asked to give the benediction and short message at the end of the parade where it came into the cemetery. I admit I was a little nervous, but I met a lot of new people from the community. Last we celebrated a new believer in Christ as Shirley Hyzer from our church shared her faith through her words and how she lived out her faith at work. The young lady wanted what she had. The church gave her a bible, Shirley directed her to the Gospels, and this week Shirley learned that she found Christ and how God protected her while driving her car. The young lady does not attend church here at Elmdale, but Shirley participated in growing the Kingdom of God. We are looking at starting something new next year. As was said at the Pastor and Spouse retreat, we are going to do something!

We did not receive a grant this year.



# FOUND

**Rev. Chris & Melissa Heydenburg (9/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 12  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 18  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 17  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 89  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$251,984 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

We are now in our second year at our building at 141 E. Michigan Ave in Downtown Jackson and coming up to our fifth anniversary as a church on September 8th. Time has flown by. God has been moving in so many beautiful and powerful ways. Some days it is hard to describe let alone comprehend all that He has done and is doing.

We are thankful for a space to call home and to establish a work of ministry in downtown Jackson. As special as it was to pull an entire portable church behind a truck, show up a few hours early, set up, and have a worship service; only to have to tear it down again, pack it in a trailer, and pull it back to where we started each and every Sunday, our hearts are filled with gratitude for a permanent location. And yet, we would not have wanted to do it any other way. Being a portable church for the early years of Found, helped to build a foundation of mission and fellowship that is often not easy to come by.

That said, even though we are in a permanent location, we are an outward-facing church. Our Found family is vibrant and beautifully growing in Christ SO THAT we can fulfill our mission, which is, *to lead and love our diverse community of Jackson together in Christ Jesus*. Found is focused on things other than making a name for ourselves. We are focused on making the Name of Jesus Christ known. But as we knit our community together; support other churches; partner with outside organizations; engage with our community; provide space for Jackson events; lift other good work in the community; and work to provide resources and opportunities for folks to have their needs met either through our outward facing ministries or our support of other work in the community, people tend to hear about Found. Mostly by word of mouth or intrigue, new folks keep coming through our doors each Sunday.

We hosted the Grand River Winter Farmers Market this past Nov-April. We felt that it was missional and provided a great opportunity to strengthen and connect our community. Just today we received a report that the summer venue has exploded this year and is having its greatest success yet and they see our partnership with them as a primary cause. We are planning to launch a new chapter of Celebrate Recovery as we have discovered the chains of addiction are a stronghold of our community. Please pray for us as we step into this new endeavor.

Last year we received an "Others Grant" to help us purchase supplies for a Back To School Event and we had over 300 students come and pick up backpacks full of all the supplies they need for the year. We also partnered with our neighboring business, which happens to be an ice cream shop, and they gave out ice cream on the way out. It was a beautiful event. We are planning to host a similar event again this year near the end of summer.

There are so many other events we are either participating in or hosting in our downtown area; Fire In The City is a worship event we are planning for Fall, Juneteenth, Unite Jackson, Christmas Parade, etc. We are excited to see God move in the year to come! Pray for us as we continue to listen and move as God directs.

Thank you!



# GRAND HAVEN

**Rev. Ron & Robyn Heiler (3/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUA                   | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 2   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 157 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$126,480 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

There are three things we've done at Grand Haven Church of the Nazarene over the past year to expand our ministry into our community...

### Legacy Basketball Camp

The purpose of the camp was to build relationships with young families in our community, help develop the character of youth, and to give basic basketball instruction to children grades 1-6. We used basketball as a bridge to make connections. Each night of the camp the kids would hear two Legacy Talks from Pastor Ron about things like: Doing Your Best, Be A Learner, Relationships Are Key, Character Matters, Being A Good Teammate and receive basic basketball instruction done in a fun and engaging format from two experienced coaches. Our hope was to instruct, inspire, and impact youth to be the best version of themselves on and off the court. Although we had originally intended to charge a fee for the campers, we ended up doing it for free.

### Community Halloween Glow Party

For the third year in a row, we have put on a Glow Party for our community around Halloween time. The purpose is to simply build as many connections as possible with families in our community and build a good reputation in the Tri-Cities area. Basically, we have a bunch of carnival games spread throughout our facility in which the kids can play and receive candy. We have lots of fun dressing up, giving away food and candy, playing music, and taking people through our DIY escape rooms. Everyone has a blast! Of course, all of this is done under black lights and all things that glow. We could not have done this without the district's help through the "Others Grant." We are so thankful and blessed to have our MI District reinvest monies back into the local church for the purpose of outreach.

### REC FEST

Another outreach we were able to do through the "Others Grant" was REC FEST. The purpose was to try and meet a need in our community. We simply opened up our gymnasium for a few hours throughout the winter months to give families a place for their kids to go and burn off energy. On the second Friday of each month, November through April, we hosted REC FEST where we did things like: Nerf Wars, Lego Building, Nine Square in the Air, Gaga Ball, Minute to Win It Games, Toddlers Bounce House, etc. We also had food for purchase at a very reasonable rate so parents wouldn't have to worry about making dinner for that night. We made numerous contacts with people in our community.

Ron Heiler  
Lead Pastor  
Grand Haven Nazarene



# GRAND LEDGE

**Rev. Richard & Brenda Hand (6/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 5   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 66  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$228,345 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

The closing paragraph of the Mayoral Proclamation received by our church family very recently reads as follows:

“Now, therefore, be it known to one and all, that I, the Mayor of the City of Grand Ledge, do hereby express my gratitude and appreciation to I Love My City – Grand Ledge, for its untiring service to make our City more beautiful and an even more pleasant place to call home.”

For five years the people of our small church in our small city have purposed in their hearts to reach out to our neighbors in tangible ways beyond our walls, and our neighbors have noticed. We have invested in the I Love My City concept and have used this to mobilize our people, young and old. The Grand Ledge Church of the Nazarene is being recognized and associated with people who are helpful and who have servant-hearts.

Throughout the year we are doing acts of service for our neighbors. Our newly paved parking lot has welcomed many guests for a really great Trunk-or-Treat, our largest Easter Egg hunt to date, and a community parking lot sale to raise funds for children’s ministry improvements as we strive to grow in this area. We have blessed our neighboring businesses with several “Donut Drops” where we unexpectedly deliver boxes of fresh homemade treats for the workforce. We have had many new and positive contacts this way.

We continue to walk in community parades, cleaning up after the events. We have served breakfast to our community school bus drivers, and we are doing “Pop-up Food Events” to just bless folks that we meet around town and in our parks. Our youth have been seen wearing their I Love My City safety vests and cleaning up around the city. We have been called upon by city leaders to volunteer for various events and festivals helping with parking and other logistics.

We have had a good time being people who love our city and being the Grand Ledge Church of the Nazarene!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard W. Hand, Pastor



# GRAND RAPIDS CLYDE PARK

**Rev. Ryan & Emily Quanstrom (10/15)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 4   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 1   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 47  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$211,216 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

In the past year Clyde Park Church of the Nazarene expanded into our community by continuing to make our church property a third space. Last summer we built a fenced in playground, we built a hexagonal pergola fire pit, and we added some upgrades to our community garden.

In addition to one off outreach events, we continued our “pay what you can” community dinner. People can come and eat a hot home cooked meal and pay what they can. If that’s nothing, that’s OK. This meal gives us a great time to fellowship and it has helped grow our youth, children, and adult Bible studies which happen after the dinner.

On top of this we received our “Other’s Grant” which we put towards a church bus. We use this bus every Sunday and Wednesday to bring people to church.

--

Pastor Ryan Quanstrom  
Clyde Park Church of the Nazarene



# GRIF

**Dr. Craig & Lynne Dillman (8/14)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |             |  |     |
|---|-------------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES         | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES         | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES         | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES         | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 9   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES         | Membership Total                         | 175 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$1,096,214 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

I am privileged to bring my **tenth** report on behalf of Grand Rapids International Fellowship COTN (GRIF).

◆ **A few highlights of God's provision this past year include:**

1. We have experienced growth in our young families. I had the privilege of dedicating **6** infants this past year. Both our Nursery and Children's ministry is experiencing new growth under the leadership of **Pastor Nan Evans** and **Danielle Dillman**.
2. We received **10** new members who reflect our commitment to be a multigenerational and multicultural congregation. Our Growth Track process, led by **Pastor Becca Graham**, has seen high participation from those new to GRIF.
3. **Eva Schoon** has led our continued efforts to be a prayer-driven congregation by hosting 4 annual prayer gatherings, numerous weekly prayer groups, and a monthly congregational prayer focus. **Kimberly Meiste** has led special evenings of prayer and worship. We have publicly shared many testimonies of God's faithfulness in answered prayers and forming us through prayer.
4. **Pastor Daniel Kasaggoma** recently completed his first year as GRIF's Youth and Families Pastor. He was married in a ceremony in Uganda via zoom. We are praying for the immigration process and anticipating the arrival of his wife, Catherine, in the near future.
5. **Beth White** (Adm. Asst.) has helped us develop a strategic process to stay focused on and develop our "Big Rock" priorities throughout this year.

◆ **God's leading for the future includes:**

1. Continuing our work with the city of Grand Rapids and ministry partners to **design and develop housing units** on our property for single moms, refuge families, and others in need of affordable housing in our community.
2. We are developing a health care ministry for our community, **Link to Health**, under the leadership of Dr. Stephanie Johnson and Eva Schoon.
3. An increased focus on training leaders and developing **Life groups** (micro-churches) that carry and multiply our discipleship values and mission.

I am grateful for an excellent leadership team - **Eva Schoon** (Church Adm. / Community Link Dir.) **Becca Graham** (Connections Pastor) **Beth White** (Adm Asst.), **Nan Evans** (Family Children's Pastor), **Kimberly Meiste** (Worship Arts), **Danielle Kasaggoma** (Family Youth Pastor), and **Kevin Webster** (AVL).

In Christ's Service,  
Craig Dillman



# GRAND RAPIDS NE COMMUNITY

**Revs. Joe & Cheryl Young (4/24)**

## Co-Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 24  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$49,522 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Our church is Northeast Community Church of the Nazarene on Fuller Ave in Grand Rapids MI. We are situated just outside of downtown. We have a bus stop that is conveniently placed right outside of the church. Our church people have seen the needs of the people using the bus and decided to provide a weekly community meal to reach the people in our neighborhood. Every Wednesday at 6 p.m., people from differing backgrounds come to the church for a free meal. After the meal we have been showing a short film and many of the participants choose to stay and watch the film. The food for the meal is provided by a team of volunteers. The menu changes every week, and it never ceases to amaze me how the team comes together to provide a healthy “home-cooked” meal. We have had many people come to the meals that have started visiting the church on Sunday mornings for worship. One lady and her daughter have gone from just receiving the meal to serving the meal. They are the first to sign up every week to bring something for the meal and have also become attendees of our Sunday morning service. Our Wednesday Night Community Meal is becoming a circle of giving. We are blessed to be able to provide this meal for our community.

Another way we have blessed our community this year is through our annual diaper drive. We had a goal to bring 1200 diapers to the church to donate them to St Gianna’s Baby Boutique. They offer a selection of new and gently used items for infant and toddler care at no cost. We ended up donating over 1300 diapers!

These are just a couple of ways we reach the community around us. We are so blessed to share what Christ has so freely given to us. It reminds me of the scripture verse from Luke 6:38 *“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”*

Respectfully submitted.

Pastors Joe and Cheryl Young

Northeast Community Church of the Nazarene



# GRAND RAPIDS WEST INTL

**Rev. Joas & Marie Yasmine Occes  
(4/14)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | NO       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 16  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 77  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$67,880 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Peace to all,

This year of 2023 has been a learning adventure for the Grand Rapids West church as we strive to reach out to the lost and equip the body of Christ. Certainly! Expanding into the community beyond church doors was an essential part of our ministry to fostering meaningful connections and making a positive impact. Here are some ways the church has been involved:

- **Outreach Programs:** At the church level, we create some cells (Brother's Keepers) that aim to keep everyone closer like in a small group. This is the result of programs that address specific community needs, such as job placement, literacy, and visitations. These initiatives demonstrate the spirit of caring which helps build trust.
- **Partnerships:** We collaborate with other organizations, businesses, and government agencies such as Kent County Children and Family's Department, Bethanie, Union in Action, Caribbean Children, and more. These joint efforts have amplified the impact we make on the lives of others and created lasting changes.
- **Events Beyond Sundays:** Soccer is one of the programs that the church has done in partnership with the Lansing Int. Church of the Nazarene including another Haitian Church in the area. Culturally, soccer unified Haitians and broke barriers of denominations, and social classes. It's just a celebration. Haitians and organizations working in Haiti have been invited and show up to celebrate Haitian Flag Day (May 18).
- **Hospital and Home Visits:** Not only at the church level, but Individuals from the church, perform Regular visits to hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities. Singing, praying, and spending time with those in need bring comfort and joy.
- **Community Meals:** On every major occasion, like Mother's Day, the Church offers free meals open to everye. We have received also some bags from an Organization in Lansing which we distribute occasionally. This is a simple way to connect and share fellowship with those in our community.
- **Migrants Support:** With the flux of migrants arriving from Haiti, the church has been overwhelmed by the numerous requests for help. The Church partnered with some Rental management properties to facilitate the rent process for those who cannot meet the requirements yet to qualify for housing.
- **Youth Project:** Individuals from the church have received some clothes which we distribute and individuals from the church have contributed largely in clothing donations. Also, the youth group gathered at booling place this year where they engage in social networking.

The church is responding and determined to be a representative of God's kingdom in this community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Joas Occes



# GREENVILLE

**Rev. Sarah & Kyle Coppernoll (11/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 1   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | NO       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 2   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | NO       | Membership Total                         | 36  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$30,929 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

At Greenville Nazarene we desire to build up the body of Christ and be a blessing to our community.

In this desire we have sought to use the land and building God has entrusted to be used by the community. We have used the building for weddings and funerals and birthday parties and baby showers for those within and outside our small congregation.

This year we also allowed Alpha Family Services to use one of our church rooms for a mobile baby pantry boutique where clothes and wipers were given out to the community.

Through the weekly food pantry ministry; Each month we are blessed to be able to provide food so over 80 households in the community. We also served as the hub for this year's postal food drive and received over 2000 lbs of food that was divided between four local pantries.

As we seek to bless the community with our limited resources, we have partnered with two other local congregations to host Trunk N Treat and Easter Egg hunt and participate in interactive Good Friday service and church in the local park.

We don't know how God will use us next but are excited for it!



# HASTINGS

**Rev. Danny & Kayla Quanstrom (9/14)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 6   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 13  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 99  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$193,669 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Hastings Church of the Nazarene  
 Michigan District Handbook Report  
 Rev. Danny Quanstrom

This year we are emphasizing what we're calling "In and For." We are IN our community FOR our community. As much as this is an emphasis for this coming year, it is much more a recognition of where God has been taking us for the past few years and owning it. For a while now we have felt God pulling us out of our own four walls and into the community around us. This has taken a variety of forms.

First, we house the YMCA's childcare. For a few years now we have been the site of our community's largest childcare provider. As much as we would love to be the ones running the childcare program, by renting our space to the Y we have built a strong relationship with a trusted community organization.

Another community organization we are partnering with is the Hasting Community Music School. This year we opened our facility for them to hold their music lessons. Our classrooms are now dual purpose with pianos, drums, and guitars in them for use during the week. We celebrate that our space is being used for both children and adults can learn to play music and sing!

One of the most exciting community services we provide is our Language Connections class. This is the only English Language Learners class in our county. While it is small, we have seen this program have a significant impact on our community! We received an Others Grant for this ministry and were privileged to have a write up in the denominational newsletter.



This coming year we are expanding our community resources in a variety of ways. First, we will hold the first ever Hastings Theological Lecture Series where we will discuss the topic of "Technology and Theology." Second, we will hold the Barry County Ethnic Food Fest. We are looking forward to celebrating and encouraging ethnic diversity within our largely homogenous community.

God is doing exciting things through Hastings Church of the Nazarene; we're just privileged to be along for the ride with Him!

Rev. Danny Quanstrom



# HILLSDALE

**Rev. Mike & Kris Prince (9/18)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 17  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 9   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 53  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$96,910 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Pastor's Report, 2024 For Handbook – District. Mike Prince

Hello, my friends and ministry partners. This has been a remarkable year for Hillsdale Community Church of the Nazarene. The theme this last year has been on preparing for a future and the importance of praising God.

I give God the glory for all those He has chosen to be part of His team for the church this last year. God has helped us to do some major renovations including new floors in the sanctuary, kitchen, and bathrooms, as well as replacing the pews with chairs. God has also provided the funding to where we owe nothing for these renovations. We are so thankful to God for making all things new.

We have been able to help several families with the money that we receive in our benevolence fund in the community and in the church. We have had many opportunities to serve in the community with other churches as well. I have a strong belief that there is no Church without Community, and they should never be Community without Church. We are Community minded, as Jesus is. We have had some challenges along the way, but God has always been faithful to us all.

I'm thankful to the church for allowing me to be so involved in community ministry. We received an "others grant", from the Michigan District and was able to use it to help a Homeless shelter encampment, with their needs for both food and assistance in travel, as well as some much needed health needs. We as a church are doing our part, doing our best, to represent God, the church. and His community. By the grace of God and great support from my wife, community, and our church, I have lost over 140 lbs. With that loss comes better mental and physical health to do the things God has called me and our team to do in these coming years. I am so grateful to be part of the family at Hillsdale Community Church of the Nazarene.

Pastor Mike Prince  
Hillsdale Community Church of the Nazarene



# HOLLAND NEW LIFE

**Pastor Zach & Molly Caruth (7/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 1   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 30  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$39,345 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

New Life continues to look for ways to expand in our community beyond our church doors.

This past year we held a Vacation Bible School for the first time since 2010. Through VBS we were able to make connections with children and families in our community. In addition, 1 child gave their life to Christ!

Then, this spring we started a community garden. As the congregation worked together we have also been able to make connections with our neighbors. We look forward to sharing produce with our community this summer. Our goal is to use the garden to reach into our community with the love of Jesus Christ.

Our church also has a park for our neighbors. We maintain this area to provide a welcoming space for our community. Regularly neighbors use our picnic area and basketball hoop. Last fall we had an outdoor movie night in the park.

As a church, we have been praying for how we can "bless our community". We continue to look for ways to share the love of Jesus with our neighbors.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Zach Caruth



# HOLT



**Rev. Debra Mulder (6/07)**

## Lead Pastor's Report

|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 1   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 19  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$56,644 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Greetings Dr. Carla Sunberg, Rev. Brad Dyrness, Michigan District Assembly Delegates and Friends,

This is my 17<sup>th</sup> report to this Assembly, and I am excited to report the good news of how God is using the family at Holt Naz to reflect his Kingdom as He forms, shapes, and empowers us to share Him with our world. This past year we served 40 Families, consisting of 77 adults and 54 children, through our Blessings Pantry. With our Benevolence Ministry we were able to help several families with gas – enabling them to get to work, doctor appointments, and interviews. We also gifted a community family with baby items for their newborn and provided a care basket of snacks for a community member whose young child was in the hospital. Sycamore Elementary Care is our group that connects us to the elementary school on the Tree Streets of Holt (In 2023 we committed to pray and care for the people on the Tree Streets). This fall we were able to bless the staff of Sycamore Elementary with backpacks filled with teacher supplies. Throughout the year volunteers have helped encourage kids during mileage club, participated in their Trunk or Treat, as well as their field day, and provided breakfast for Teacher Appreciation. In the fall we participated with the Holt Community Trunk or Treat – meeting old friends and new as more than 800 kids collected candy and tattoos. We opened our building on Tuesdays for PLAY- an opportunity for parents or caregivers to bring children birth through pre-K to connect with others in a safe play environment for the children. We also participated in our community's National Night Out with games, a pre-school play area, and an inflatable. We began Table Tuesday, where a free dinner is offered for connection with those in our community. While invitation by someone within the church brought the most visitors, we did see two families drop in from our Facebook invites. In addition to our ministries, our pastoral team has made it their priority to get our name out into the community through marketing. This meant actively sharing information about our community and connections ministries through our website and community Facebook groups as well as our own Facebook page. Through our Blessings Pantry, Fall Break Adventure Camp/VBS, Sycamore Elementary Care, PLAY, National Night Out, and Table Tuesday – we are opening doors for connection with those in our community. This past year we saw 29 new visitors to our campus and 14 of those have consistently attended an in-person worship service. Our desire is to be a body of believers where people know they belong and are provided a safe place for them to grow in their relationship with God and one another.

~Respectfully submitted.

Rev. Debra A. Mulder, Lead Pastor  
Holt Church of the Nazarene



# JACKSON FIRST

**Rev. Bryce & Mandy Gernand (10/17)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |             |  |     |
|---|-------------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES         | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES         | Number of New Believers                  | 81  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES         | Number of Baptisms                       | 72  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES         | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES         | Membership Total                         | 803 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$1,738,970 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

### JaxNaz Church

2023-2024

This year, our church made room to grow. By our records, we have had just over five hundred first-time guests in this year alone! I honestly don't know if we're supposed to feel good about that or not, but it's worthy of note. Over the past few years, we have been hitting a ceiling in our Sanctuary capacity. Now, in that time, every seat has not been occupied in both of our services. In fact, in one of the services we haven't even been close. That being said, the other service has been approaching capacity and at times spilling into overflow space. This has been a good problem to have, but still one that needed to be addressed. If we want our people to partner with God to reach their neighbors (in the places they live, work, play, and learn), then we need to make sure there's room to receive them.

We began a series in January called Room to Grow. It led up to a shift to three Sunday services. We shared that this would mean change for all of us. But if we only saw it as a change to our Sunday routine, then we would miss out. Instead, we saw it as an opportunity to grow in our devotion to God and one another, in our engagement with what goes on in/through our church, and in our participation in God expanding his kingdom. It was an opportunity for all of us to become more together as God was doing a new thing in our midst. The order of devotion, engagement, and participation is important. It is an inside-out movement. God, do it in me, in us, and in them.

This has been well-received by our people, and a good move overall. Our staff and their teams have shined! I believe that the work has just begun. It is very much unfinished. Even as I re-typed the words above, which were included in our messages and publications, I am drawn to them again. To say that I ache for them to come to fruition would not be an overstatement.

Author and activist Christine Cain says, "Healthy things grow, and growing things change. If we allow fear or doubt or shame or insecurity to hold us back from something new God is calling us to do, we may miss out on his greatest purpose for our life. As believers, we go from strength to strength, from glory to glory. And in order to keep expanding God's kingdom, we have to keep growing and trying new things."

God, do it in me, in us, and in them. Let us break out our stretchy pants for your glory. Amen.



# KALAMAZOO SOUTH SIDE

**Revs. Chris & Sara Pettit (5/06)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 5   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 80  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 6   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 40  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$63,073 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

In 2024, Kalamazoo South had an exciting year of outreach into our community. We transitioned from a food pantry to weekly community dinners.

With donations from Georgia, Florida, Texas, Ohio, and Michigan, we have seen 58 souls saved and 17 sanctified - which is the point of this effort.

The last 10 weeks of this church year we served 591 catered meals complete with entrees, sides, salads, desserts and drinks.

We have trained 4 food service certified workers from our church for this new ministry.

The Others grant is aiming to help us feed our community in the new year by co-purchasing a food trailer.

With a new tent, new signs, new baptismal, and new food trailer - we will be able to reach deep into Kalamazoo and pluck souls from going to hell.

Serving His Kingdom,  
Pastor Chris Pettit



# LANSING FIRST

**Rev. Jesse Briles (11/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 2   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 1   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 64  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$134,747 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

The Lord has been present and faithful this past year at Lansing First. We've seen our church strengthened as the Lord has been directing and calling us in ways we haven't seen since before the pandemic. We started a new adult small group and have restarted our youth group and they've both provided great opportunities for our community to grow in their relationships with God and with each other. We also presented a local license to a long-time faithful servant at our church who decided to answer the call of a more formally recognized ministry in her life. We also brought in new members who have already become an important part of our church family and ministries.

This strengthening has been vital to our efforts to actively expand our ministry beyond our Sunday morning services and discern how God is calling us to bless our community. The church body at Lansing First organized several outreach events, including a harvest party, VBS, and a holiday vendor event. All of these resulted in meaningful connections to families in our community and have helped us to maintain a meaningful presence with our community and neighbors. Over the course of the last year we enjoyed the presence of attendees who literally live on all sides of the church building. We see this as a testament to our efforts to reach our neighbors and help us look more like the community in which God has placed us!

Our childcare ministry is currently Lansing First's biggest ministry to our community. God has been working amongst our staff, children, and their families. Our two locally licensed ministers work actively in this ministry and ensure that the families who trust us with the care of their children know that our church and—most importantly—God is with them and loves them. We strongly believe that this ministry is one of the greatest ways our church, over many decades, has made and continues to make a Kingdom impact in Delta Township and beyond.

Lansing First has been participating in our denomination's regional emphasis this year to "Bless Our Community." We participated in the Easter to Pentecost sermon series and prayer emphasis, and we plan to use the resources provided by the region at the start of the new church year. This will include a community and congregational assessment to discern how God wants us to bless our community in ways that meet existing needs with existing resources.

God continues to strengthen and expand our church and her ministry. While it may seem that the strengthening and expanding has been slower than we'd prefer, we know that in God's timing and with God's leading we will continue to become the church that we've been created and called to be in our community and beyond.



# LANSING INTERNATIONAL

**Rev. Joas & Yasmine Marie Occes**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|  |                 |   |            |
|--|-----------------|---|------------|
| <b>All Budgets Paid In Full</b>                | <b>NO</b>       | <b>Number Called to Ministry (this year)</b>    | <b>0</b>   |
| <b>Participation in World Evang. Fund</b>      | <b>YES</b>      | <b>Number of New Believers</b>                  | <b>0</b>   |
| <b>Participation in NBUSA</b>                  | <b>NO</b>       | <b>Number of Baptisms</b>                       | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>Participation in ONU Allocation</b>         | <b>NO</b>       | <b>Number of New Nazarenes</b>                  | <b>10</b>  |
| <b>Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations</b> | <b>YES</b>      | <b>Membership Total</b>                         | <b>50</b>  |
| <b>Raised for all Purposes</b>                 | <b>\$41,500</b> | <b>Participated in Compassionate Ministries</b> | <b>YES</b> |

Dear friends in Christ,

Lansing Intl Church of the Nazarene is pleased to share these experiences on the spiritual growth of the church and the impact made in the community in the few lines.

First, in October 2023, we organized a Training Seminar on Mission and Evangelism with the different departments of the church. We have shown the different methods for evangelizing including the Door-to-door method and the collective or mass method. Although there is no unique technique that is best for the growth of the Church, it all depends largely on the circumstances of the people who will receive the Word of God. However, it is important to take the time to analyze the situation and find a method appropriate to each situation. President Joe Biden's program is a concrete example. Most of the people who are just settling in the area have been contacted by our church members and informed us about that. Our responsibility is to see them at home to introduce them to our congregation. Additionally, we invite them to take part, and we give them calls asking them how they are and how they see the assembly. Door-to-door is interesting because the person is ready to talk to us and even explain their problems.

Second, people who come from other countries such as Brazil, Chile, etc., upon arriving in the area, don't have anything even to pay for their accommodation. Last year, the Nazarene Mission gave very useful help. We will say with honesty, that this offer was useful because people were hoping to receive a grant each month from the church, which helped them fill some of the gaps.

Third, Soccer is one of the programs that the church has done in partnership with the Grand Rapids West including another Haitian Church in the Lansing area. Culturally, soccer unified Haitians and broke barriers of denominations, and social classes. It's just a celebration.

Finally, one of the elements we share is that each member reaches at least one person in their neighborhood, at school, and even at work. The home and hospital visits carried out are very effective, the testimonies are exact proof.

What makes the job prosperous is that everyone is courteous, warm, and smiling when we are together. This gives visitors the taste of being a member of this Church and this gives the possibility to the church to extend beyond the doors in the area.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Joas & Pastor Jean Berniste Ambeau



# LANSING SOUTH

**Revs. Travis & Jesi Myers (1/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 5   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 25  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 19  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 15  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 325 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$807,099 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

God has been faithful and on the move at SouthNaz when it comes to expanding our area of service outside of our physical church building. Because we have not been sitting waiting for people to come to us but have been intentional at getting outside of our doors, we have seen growth in our church with new people. Since January, we have been averaging 25-30 new visitors a month, and the best part is many have continued to attend and are getting involved in ministry.

For a second year, our church focus has been *Serve: God, Church, Neighbors*. Through this focus, we are realizing that the church is more than just the building or the members that we have. We have a field that needs to be harvested, and we are actively getting outside our walls to build relationships and share the love of Jesus to the community around us. An example of this is one of our weekly Connect Groups meets at a restaurant and has befriended the waitress. They have spent time praying for her and given her gifts when she had a baby.

We also are part of Lansing city council as a prayer advisor to the mayor. Another way we have expanded into the community is by hosting many events for our local schools and allowing our facility to be used by community sports teams, which has built a community outside of our weekly services of people who know SouthNaz cares and is available. Our ONU at SouthNaz is also another avenue that we are using to expand outside of our church walls. We continue to invite the neighborhood to family outreach events like Trunker Treat, VBS, and Spring Spectacular. God is continuing to bless SouthNaz in many ways and stretch us to get outside of our comfort zones and the walls of the church. I am excited and can't wait to see where He leads SouthNaz in the coming year as we continue to expand into the community beyond our church doors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Travis Myers



# LANSING WOODVIEW

**Rev. Devon & Megan Staples (3/23)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 1   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 5   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 79  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$141,511 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

It is a privilege to bring my second report on behalf of Lansing Woodview Church of the Nazarene.

God is moving at Woodview! The year began with us recognizing our neighborhood. Woodview is uniquely positioned on Lansing's north side. We have a Lansing address but find ourselves in the southeast corner of Dewitt township on the southern edge of Clinton County. For years we had struggled to identify "our community." Finally, it struck us that our community has a name, what DeWitt Township calls the Valley Farms district, and we are working to be a church for the Valley Farms district.

For several years we have been establishing ourselves as a community presence through outreach events. Our outreach philosophy focuses on building relationships for a Kingdom impact. We practice corporately what we hope to do individually in building relationships through hospitality and service. We held 10 events this year including outdoor game nights, indoor games nights, outdoor movie night, Trunk-or-Treat, Community Thanksgiving Dinner, and VBS. Every event we host includes free food, a chance to win a Meijer gift card, and we have our clothes closet open. Each year our community presence grows, we know our neighbors better, and we meet needs in our community through our clothes closet and through our local compassionate ministry fund.

Summer was particularly busy with monthly outdoor game nights, our first VBS in many years, and welcoming an Anglican congregation into our facility. In July a local Anglican congregation reach out about renting a portion of our facility and in September we celebrated their arrival with a joint service. Their arrival marked an answer to prayer both in better utilizing our facility and providing much needed income. In August, we held a VBS attaching our August outdoor game night with our VBS so we could connect with the families of the students who attended VBS. We also were able to meet and help an immigrant family from India who had only been in the country a couple of weeks.

Fall brought about our biggest community events including our outdoor movie night and Trunk-or-Treat. These events were only possible through the generous support of several businesses in our community. As God has called us, so God continues to provide. November marked our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Community Thanksgiving Meal and the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the opening of our new reimagined clothes closet. After years of struggle and many attempts our clothes closet has finally taken root as a community resource, meeting needs, and welcoming community investment. In January we resumed our monthly outreach events with indoor board game nights. Each month, January through May, we held events on the third Saturday of each month. Again, we continued to grow in our presence, building new relationships, and meeting needs.

In the coming year we are looking forward to continuing to reach out into our Valley Farms community and following God into our neighborhood. We believe God is calling us, as Jeremiah 29:7 states, to "seek the peace and prosperity of the city" to which God has called us "because if it prospers, you too will prosper." We have money set aside to meet needs in our community and are exploring where God is calling us to do so. We are seeking the peace and prosperity of Valley Farms in Jesus name! May God's Kingdom come, and God's will be done at Woodview and in Valley Farms as it is in heaven.

Grace & Peace,  
Rev. Devon Staples  
Woodview Church of the Nazarene



# LOWELL

**Rev. Ed & Laura O'Connor (7/23)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 1   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 65  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$108,277 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Lowell Naz has been working to expand into the community in several interesting ways. First, we have a monthly “Nazcafe” which is a meal provided by the church to the community for no charge. Several volunteers work in the kitchen, others take orders and bring food, and still others come to clean up afterwards. This event has developed a group of consistent attenders and a devoted base of volunteers. Another way the church works to reach out to the community is through the community garden ministry. Using space on our church campus, we have set up an area for growing vegetables that are made available to the community through our neighborhood food stand. Throughout the summer, many local people stop by and express gratitude for the efforts of the church with some even helping out with weeding and picking vegetables.

Our church is one of the annual hosts for “Christmas Through Lowell”, allowing vendors to set up space in our church and fellowship hall as the general public comes through.

In the fall, we host an apple pie fundraiser. In recent years the Elmdale church has joined with us in this ministry, making over 500 apple pies last year and offering them for sale to the public for supporting local missions.

We maintain a booth at the high school for the annual Expo event, being popular in promoting the church as we are the only booth offering cotton candy to visitors. ☺ (Hopefully next year they won’t put the 4H animals right next to us!)

Moving forward, God is giving us favor with the two large trailer courts in our community. In fact, we have already seen children begin attending church through this community. Our focus remains prayer and seed sowing as we look to make relevant connections with many more families. We pray to be the workers the Lord is willing to send into this harvest field. And we pray to stay faithful as the life of the church begins to ebb and flow with new people attending. The future for the church in Lowell is very bright!



# MASON FIRST

**Rev. Gerhard & Diane Weigelt (7/10)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 2   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 22  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 5   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 2   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 239 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$527,347 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Exciting days at Mason First as we Follow Christ, Connect Hearts and Love One Another. We truly want to be a gift to our community as we attempt to make God's Kingdom become a greater reality in Mason and beyond. We are blessed to be able to worship at the ROC, a place where we desire to be known well by our community.

We are intentionally looking for ways to expand our reach in our community. Our children's ministry has led the way by doing monthly service projects that have included forming Blessing Bags for the homeless, thank you gifts for those volunteering in our Connect Sports ministries, Christmas remembering you gift bags for shut-ins, and a clean up of a local community park.

Between Connect Sports Basketball, Flag Football, and Archery we have welcomed over 600 kids and their families into our facility to have the opportunity to love on them and be Good Newsers sharing the joy that we have found in Christ.

Once a quarter we offer a free drive through meal event called Feed the Community, this past year we have served close to 500 meals to our community. Praise the Lord!

Our staff and board are reading Dr. Starks book, "The News is Good", and we are attempting to "Be good newsers in a world filled with bad news." So we are attempting to, "Care deeply. Listen intently. Watch attentively. Love fiercely. And spread the good news every chance we get."



# MIDLAND BETHEL

**Rev. Norman & Brenda Eddy (4/17)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 68  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$76,028 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Pastor did not submit a written report.



# MIDLAND NAZ

**Rev. Justin & Heather Hayes (8/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 14  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 7   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 184 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$594,819 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Brothers and sisters of the Michigan District Church of the Nazarene, Midland Nazarene has experienced the work of God in our congregation in amazing ways. We went through the Homecoming season, an immersive discipleship experience developed by members of our church, that lead our people into a deeper, more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ over 50 days. This sermon series, life group curriculum, and 50 day devotional was based on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, and the reports of life impact were overwhelming. We saw a surge in attendance and new guest as our congregants were excited to participate and invite their friends and loved ones to participate. The lessons learned from Homecoming are helping church leadership strategically plan for the future.

We continued to support the community through our local partnerships. By partnering with local organizations, we were able to help the homeless, needy and impoverished, support recent parolees and released prisoners, and provide for children and marginalized residents of Midland county. We expanded our partnerships to go beyond Midland to the national level by entering into a partnership with Lower Light Ministries in Columbus, OH, and investigated the possibility of entering into a long term relationship with an international Nazarene initiative. Inspired by the idea of Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth, we hope to create a church culture of missional activity locally, nationally, and internationally.

It has been exciting year at Midland Nazarene with dozens of new people, powerful worship, effective discipleship methods, and faithful people expressing their confidence in Christ in their personal contexts. We are excited to see how the Lord works in our church over the next 12 months.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Justin L Hayes



# MIDLAND NEASE MEMORIAL

**Rev. Beth & John Hanson (4/14)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 2   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 55  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$79,803 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

We have taken part in what community agencies are doing: Clothing Inc., we had a winter coat drive; Adult and Teen Challenge located in Saginaw, we donated supplies to help them as they reach out to people for recovery; at Christmas we did a reverse Advent Calendar where we purchased food items each day and donated the filled banana boxes to a community service for those in need called 'Home to Stay'; the Salvation Army has a summer program for kids called 'SHARE', we packed lunches for the kids.

To break up the winter months, once a month we began to have a 'game night'. We shared a meal together and then played board games and visited with those who attended. By our third 'game night' we had grown to over fifty in attendance with over half that had never attended a service at Nease. We continue to supply drinking water, to those who ask, from a local mobile home community. Those who call the church wanting to come for services and need a ride we make sure they get picked up so they can attend.

There are some in the congregation that are seeing the needs of others in the community and are rising to meet those needs. One is having a playset erected in their yard for the neighborhood children to have a safe place to gather and play. Another is making connections with family members of children and youth who attend services on Wednesday evening. Others are seizing opportunities when they are out in public to share Jesus Christ. They are finding most want to hear of our Lord!

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Beth Hanson



# MT PLEASANT FAITH INDIAN

**Rev. Doyle & Darlene Perry (11/02)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 8   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 34  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$63,526 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

I chose Connection, if we don't connect with people, community, you won't succeed.

To restart an Indian Church, being a big white guy isn't isn't practical. White people are at the bottom of their acceptance list. We couldn't get a vote for me to come to Mt. Pleasant, because I was white. I started with four Indians and one hillbilly. All finances and records were never given up by former the pastor. Not the way to begin, but the Call of God told me to go. In the early days it was Blanket Dog & Soup Benefits to reach the community on massive funerals for Tribal members. I knew the knife was an Indian cultural gift for friendship, which I had used in the Wesleyan Church. At Faith Indian all my men have a pocket knife. If I have a man come 2 -3 weeks, I go "one on one" with him. It makes a great impression on a man. In 2007 I preached a weekend meeting at Lakota Memorial Nazarene Church in South Dakota. I gave 110 pocket knives to them. Some of my new men have been saved this year, some came to the altar , some being by themselves. Twelve people were saved this year, seven to be baptized, two came recently to surrender themselves and be Sanctified.

Connections must come from leadership for the lay people to see and understand.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Rev. Doyle Perry



# MT PLEASANT FIRST

**Rev. Jon & Annie Croft (10/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 1   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 54  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$166,516 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

MPNazarene District Assembly Handbook Report  
2023/2024 year

These are good days in Mount Pleasant. This is a church that truly loves God and one another. They show up for each other in difficult times, and celebrate with one another in the good times. The people of MPNaz have a hunger to know God and to love him more.

They also have a hunger to know one another and love one another more. This year MPNaz received an "Others Grant" from the Michigan District for \$5000. This money was given to support a Nazarene Compassionate Ministry Center that was founded in the basement of the church ten years ago. Clothing INC has long outgrown the space that was available in the church and now operates closer to downtown Mt. Pleasant. The mission of Clothing INC is simple: give free clothing to anyone in need. This mission is carried out by volunteers from our church and partnering churches who desire to make Christ known to all who receive the services that Clothing INC offers. May is the month each year that Isabella County United Way offers a matching grant for all funds that are donated to Clothing INC (up to \$15k), so we opted to have the "Others Grant" given through that channel. It is incredible what God will do when the Spirit nudges someone and they respond in obedience. Over the last decade Clothing INC has served over 40,000 guests. This all started with someone saying YES to the audacious prompting of the Holy Spirit.

MPNaz and Clothing INC are separate entities, legally speaking, but the two are inseparable. On any given day at Clothing INC you will find 2-5 people from MPNaz sorting clothing, straightening up the racks, or helping guests find what they need. The founders of Clothing INC are all members and regular attenders of MPNaz, the current executive director is a member of MPNaz, and I serve as the Vice President of the Clothing INC board. Compassionate ministry is in the DNA of the Church of the Nazarene, and I am happy to see that lived out through the hands of the people of MPNazarene Church.

It has been an exciting year at the church as well. We have seen new families come for a visit, and most of them keep coming. This church is truly a Kingdom outpost, and I am humbled and honored to be their pastor. I am learning so much from the good people of MPNazarene Church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jon Croft  
Lead Pastor



# MUSKEGON BREAKWATER

**Revs. Devin & Aimee Mulder (10/10)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 6   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 1   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 61  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$151,237 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Breakwater Church of the Nazarene has been geographically located across from Mona Shores High School since 1973. In 2024, we leaned into where God has placed us so that we can shine the light of Christ in our community. We gave away over 240 filled backpacks and 50 blankets to families at the beginning of the school year. We hosted a Christmas VBS to teach children about the real meaning of Christmas and give parents a couple of Saturdays to Christmas shop. We hosted community meals on Wednesdays and the Mona Shores High School soccer banquet at the end of the season. Pastor Devin claimed the prize for being the loudest cheerer at the Varsity Football games. We started Winter Wiggle Wednesdays, a play group for ages 0-4 and helped moms connect to their children and each other. We opened up bible classes to our community using curriculum from the Bible project. God provided for us mightily so that we could get a new sign announcing that our community playground is open for all.

All of this activity is rooted in the beauty of being the hands and feet of Jesus in the Muskegon area. We are connecting to our community, encountering God and rooting deeply in who God wants us to be. We want our capacity for grace to expand so that we are loving the lost, left out and looked over people. We want our church to be defined by an expansive culture of prayer that constantly seeks the face of God. We want to live within the gorgeous mystery of God walking toward holiness together.



# MUSKEGON CONNECTION POINT

**Rev. Aaron & Katie Gregory (8/13)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 11  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 10  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 11  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 166 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$342,256 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

### Connection Point Church 2023-2024 Annual Report

This past year was filled with some beautiful moments where it was obvious the Holy Spirit was at work in our church and in the community. We saw an increase in our morning worship attendance, people taking next steps in their faith journey, new people stepping into leadership, and there was a general sense of our church moving in the same direction. Our vision is to “Connect People to People and People to Jesus.” Within that we want it to be clear that a big part of that “Why” is because God is FOR you, your family, your future, and this community.

We have tried to be FOR our community in a few unique ways. Again this year we provided a community garden that fed over 2,000 people. We hosted a “Blue Christmas” and worked with local funeral homes to invite people for whom the Christmas season is a difficult one. This was also an event that we used a portion of the “Others Grant.” In partnership with the Nazarene Community Resource Center and the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District, we hosted a bi-weekly “Play and Learn” for toddlers that has led to incredible connections. In fact, one of the moms from that group had a miscarriage and then came to the church as she knew the people there were compassionate and she needed compassion. Our MOPs group continues to create opportunities for moms to connect both inside and outside the church. A woman in our church had a passion for families in our community and had organized a Free Kids Clothes Closet at the church where families can come and get clothes for their children. It is likely that we are missing other ways that we have reached out to people in our community and we continue to seek meaningful ways to let our neighbors know that God is for them and so are we.

Our hope for the next year is to build on what has taken place this year. We are working to increase the number of discipleship groups we offer and more effectively empower those that lead them. We believe that the best days of the church are still to come.



# NASHVILLE

**Rev. Justin & Heather Schultz (1/24)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 2   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 1   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 74  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$193,775 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

### Nashville Church of the Nazarene: Expanding Beyond Our Church Doors

At Nashville Church of the Nazarene, we are passionate about extending our ministry beyond the church walls to make a meaningful impact on our community. Our vision to **Seek. Know. Grow. Go.** guides us as we engage with those around us, fostering connections, deepening faith, and spreading the love of Christ.

#### Seek

We **seek** to connect with our community through various initiatives.

- **Mid-Week Reheat:** Every Wednesday, we host a free meal followed by group activities for youth, kids, and adults to study scripture and engage in discipleship.
- **Community Events:** Our annual car show and fall event provide fun, games, and fellowship for families in our community.

#### Know

We help others **know** God deeply.

- **Sunday Worship and Sunday School:** We offer worship services and classes for all ages to encounter Jesus and learn more about God's word.
- **Prayer and Support:** Our prayer team is always ready to offer guidance and support.

#### Grow

We are dedicated to **growing** together in faith.

- **Small Groups and Bible Studies:** These sessions help us deepen our faith and build strong community bonds.
- **Men's Breakfast and Senior Luncheons:** Monthly gatherings for men and seniors provide opportunities for fellowship and discipleship.

#### Go

We encourage our members to **go** out and spread the gospel.

- **Community Outreach:** Our outreach efforts, such as Mid-Week Reheat and other events, allow us to share the gospel and live out Jesus' teachings in practical ways.

Our commitment to the vision of **Seek. Know. Grow. Go.** continuously inspires us to find new ways to serve and engage with our community, making a lasting impact. We aim to foster a supportive, faith-driven environment where everyone can experience growth and connection.

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
Justin Schultz



# NEW LOTHROP

**Rev. Paul & Jan Brashaw (10/94)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 15  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 8   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 3   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 140 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$422,338 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Michigan District Family

There is nothing on the planet like the Jesus focused, mission driven, Spirit led, love filled Church. And we believe the best days are coming.

The New Lothrop Village population is 585. A village prayer walk takes 20 minutes if you make stops to visit. Expanding is always on the agenda.

Here are 7 ways NLNC expanded in 2023-2024.

- Personal decisions about Jesus. Salvation stories. Baptisms and Membership.
- Opened the Community Life Center 5 days a week to sports teams, school events, Boy Scouts, and a church - community event called MidWeek.
- Elementary age Bible classes 4 days a week during the school year.
- Social media engagement to assisted living centers, travelers, homes, and out of state friends.
- The Dollar Giving Club blessed 73 district and beyond district pastors with a resource and encouragement.
- Influence to 22 zip codes.
- Prayer teams, prayer walks, all church prayer initiatives.

The New Lothrop Church is both a current addition to the growing list of convincing proofs that Jesus is alive (Acts 1:3) and a living testimony that Jesus' words in Matthew 16:18 are true.

Called by God. Commissioned by the Holy Spirit. Committed to living the mission of Jesus Christ. And as excited as ever to make a big deal about Jesus with friends.

Paul & Jan Brashaw



# OKEMOS

**Rev. Stephen & Marcia Murphy (1/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 2   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 66  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$49,098 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

### Handbook Report

Submitted by Rev. Stephen R. Murphy

Okemos Church of the Nazarene

Okemos Church of the Nazarene has chosen to focus on becoming more family-oriented by reaching out to those who are not able to come to church. Each week we travel to an adult housing location as well as an assisted living facility and transport those who wish to join us for worship. Those who we pick up each week have expressed, many times, that we have become their church family. The sense of community has gotten much stronger since we began doing this outreach last year. We have also begun a fellowship time before the morning worship service where we connect with each other, share prayer requests and praises for what the Lord has done the previous week and what the Lord is doing in people's lives. Additionally, we have begun children's Bible quizzing for the first time. The children are excited each week to study the lessons and to learn more about the Bible and the stories that coincide with each chapter. We have also begun broadcasting on a Spanish YouTube channel and receive dozens of views each week. From that Spanish broadcast, a prayer request came to us about a man who was struggling with a sinful lifestyle. We put his name on our prayer list, began to pray for him, and one week later, he accepted the Lord, Jesus Christ as Savior, quit his sinful job, and began working in a factory. Finally, we've been praying for a drummer to join our worship band on Sunday mornings. Two weeks ago, one of our members said he felt led to volunteer to play drums and started last week!

The Lord is certainly working at Okemos Church of the Nazarene, and I feel humbled to lead these wonderful people on their journeys of faith and trust in the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Pastor Stephen R. Murphy  
 Okemos Church of the Nazarene



# OWOSSO CITY

**Rev. Marlene & Ted Webster (4/12)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 3   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 44  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$44,801 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

The week around Pentecost Sunday provides a great snapshot of life at Owosso City Church. On the Saturday before Pentecost, we hosted a baby shower for a family with teenaged children and a surprise baby on the way. This family is under-resourced in every way. We first met them 12 years ago when we began working at Pleasant Valley Trailer Park.

On Monday, we learned that a young father in our neighborhood had died by suicide and we reached out to offer support to the family.

On Tuesday, we hosted a funeral dinner for a family with whom we are connected because of our work in the community. Following the funeral dinner, we had our weekly Table Tuesday at the trailer park. First Baptist Church prepared the meal that week. As often as possible, we try to bring other churches to experience the work we do there. They left, in their words, "honored and humbled" to share a meal with this community.

On Wednesday, a group of gamers met at City Church to play board games and our local domestic violence shelter used the building, as they always do, for their board meeting.

On Thursday, inside the building we were preparing a fundraising dinner for Shiawassee Hope, the non-profit associated with City Church. Outside the building, Bruce was installing a Narcan dispenser provided to us by the local Health Department. Bruce started attending City Church about 5 years ago after his daughter found Christ at City Church while she was recovering from a meth and heroin addiction.

Thursday afternoon, a teacher who attends City Church was out at the trailer park leading a reading club for elementary students. Her work throughout this past year has made a significant impact on the reading levels of these children who live with so much trauma.

Thursday evening, we hosted the fundraising dinner, bringing over 90 people from all walks of life to learn about the work we do in the community.

Not counting Sunday worship, about 268 people from the community came into our church during that one week.

In December, we received an Others Grant from the district to assist with the Shiawassee Hope Co-pay Christmas store. The store, which is set up in City Church, assisted 80+ families and over 300 children. Dozens of community members donated and volunteered to make this happen.

If you look at our church income and Sunday attendance, you will know just how big our God is.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Marlene



# OWOSSO FIRST

**Rev. Jerry & Darlene Walden (5/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 10  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 17  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 6   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 385 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$715,988 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

**First Church of the Nazarene  
Owosso, Michigan  
Handbook Report  
June 2024**

2023-2024 was an excited year for Owosso First Church as we continue to grow in our relationship with Christ and our connection to the Owosso community. God continued to bless us in many ways this last year. Last September we held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fall Festival and were overwhelmed with the response from the community with over 2,000 in attendance. It was an opportunity to develop relationships and introduce our church to many who are unchurched. We are looking forward to greater connections this year. Our Community Prayer Walk is almost completed. It provides a space for both those in the church and in the community to spend time in prayer and meditation. Located next to the space where the Fall Festival was held, many were able to enjoy it as part of our special day.

In November and December, we focused on "Friendship" and asked everyone to wear nametags since we have grown and are still getting to know one another. This was a blessing as we continue to work on greater assimilation. God has been blessings OFCN and we have had over 20 baptisms this year. God continues to call people to Christ and do His sanctifying work through the power of the Holy Spirit.

In December "Love and the Outcome" presented our annual Christmas concert which was open to our church and the community. God blessed us with good attendance, but more importantly, with the sharing of the Christmas story and the true meaning of Christmas. We thank God that He continues to give us opportunities to share the Good News and see lives transformed.

As we look forward to the coming year, we believe that God still has work for us to do at we point people to the Cross. It is not about OFCN and our programs. We are convinced that these are just vehicles for building His kingdom. We are humbled to be part of His work as He has called us to minister to a hurting world though our commitment to missions, care for the needy in our community and sharing of the gospel. God is good.

Jerry D. Walden  
Lead Pastor  
Owosso First Church of the Nazarene



# PERRY

**Rev. Tim & Sandy Harmon (9/00)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 8   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 7   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 4   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 201 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$477,490 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

This is my 24<sup>th</sup> report as pastor of the Perry Church of the Nazarene. What an honor it is to serve the Lord in partnership with such a beautiful community of Christ-followers. The dedicated and faithful service and love of this congregation continues to inspire and challenge Sandy and me. I am privileged to serve alongside five pastors who love Jesus and seek first His kingdom. This past year we have seen an influx of young adults. We have no explanation for why they started coming except they have a hunger for God. Each story is unique, but the common theme is a desire for the peace of God in their lives. Since last year, we have a dozen new 20-somethings attending and who rarely miss a Sunday. Along with these young adults come lots of children. We have had to restart our offerings for toddlers in our early service. We just completed our “Foundations” Sunday School class for new believers with as many as 12 in attendance. I am challenged and humbled that God has entrusted us to the care of these that He is calling to Himself.

Over the years Perry Nazarenes have found many ways to be present in our community. This year, we had a dozen individuals from our church serve in our local food bank, meeting with clients, shopping for groceries and serving on the board. Our youth group has also made numerous shopping trips to pick up groceries. In October, we passed out 1000 cookies as a part of the Perry homecoming tailgate event. Following the lead of Chap Naz, we partnered with Kids Hope USA, to provide mentors to the local school. Kids Hope believes that all children matter to Jesus and that the church is uniquely called and equipped to care for children. After prayer and conversation with our church leadership, in January we began this new initiative with four mentors in the Perry Elementary School. We look forward to increasing our care for children this next school year. Ongoing ministries led by those from our congregation include holding weekly Bible studies during lunch at two high schools and ministries that serve a local senior apartment building and a nursing home. Finally, we just completed remodeling our entryway to help with congestion, creating a more welcoming space to those who come. Praise the Lord for His power that is at work in us. “For from Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory!”

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pastor Tim Harmon



# PORTAGE CROSS COMMUNITY

**Rev. Jeff & Lori McVay (11/08)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 79  |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 13  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 11  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 174 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$407,786 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

At the end of the previous school year one of our Western Michigan University students helped us establish the Cross Community Church Religious Student Organization on WMU's campus. This organization allows us access to the campus for interaction with students, on campus seminars, and generally to let the students of this giant campus know that there is a church just up the road that cares about them.

At the beginning of the school year we applied for (and received) a \$600.00 "Others Grant" from the district and used that to rent a booth on campus for our organization during the annual "Bronco Bash". WMU students received a bag with information about the church, some giveaways and a ticket for transportation to the church on the Sunday of their choosing. We had an incredible day of interaction and conversation with all the students who stopped by our booth.

We also had the opportunity to set up a hot chocolate and donut give away during the cold months. We set up our church signs and offered free donuts and hot cocoa if they would simply choose a question out the jar and answer it. Some of the questions were about their experience at school or about themselves, but many of them were questions that could open up conversations about spiritual matters.

We met so many students who appreciated this kind gesture. I was surprised and amazed at how willing, open and honest students were about their experiences, both spiritual and non-spiritual. To be honest, I am ashamed that it took me this long to recognize this openness. It was such an amazing time. We are hoping to offer these experiences more often in the year to come.

We had three students start to attend during the school year. Two of them joined a small group and one of those two decided to join our mission trip to Native American Christian Academy this summer. It is my hope that this small open door will be flung wide open in the year to come.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Jeff McVay



# PORTLAND

**Rev. Jimmy & Joy Guffey (3/17)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 2   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 3   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 18  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 62  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$125,732 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

In 2023-24, Portland Church of the Nazarene intentionally sought to be more outward-oriented, desiring to be not only a praying, connecting, and strengthening body, but one that is also expanding its ministry beyond the church doors and into the community. Accordingly, we began promoting the monthly global emphases established by our District NMI Council, so we could learn more and better participate in initiatives such as Care and Connection, Alabaster, Jesus Film Harvest Partners, etc.

Additionally, we introduced monthly local emphases that would allow us to better meet needs in our local context. Each month we selected one of the schools in our community and committed (1) to pray daily for the faculty or staff—each person received one or more name cards with a staff member's name, title, and email address; (2) to send at least one encouraging note or email; and (3) to donate items specifically requested by the principal, i.e., K-cups for classrooms, snacks for the teachers' lounge, small candies and gifts for student appreciation, etc. We even had the opportunity to serve breakfast in one school and to set up an end-of-the-day dessert bar in another. Of course, we knew that these tangible items of love and appreciation would eventually run out, but our primary aim was to provide prayer, hope, and encouragement that would last long after they did!

In an effort to continue serving our community, we also began partnering with Convoy of Hope, a faith-based organization with a driving passion to feed the world through children's feeding initiatives, community outreach, and disaster response. To assist us with community outreach, Convoy of Hope freely gave us hundreds of items, with the only stipulation being that we would also give it away at no cost. With the items we received from Convoy of Hope, we were able to pack 48 lunchboxes with more than 25 individually packaged snacks each and donate them to our local elementary schools. What's more, we were able to use these supplies to meet several individual needs, and we used the remaining supplies to host an appreciation dinner for the families in our community who regularly use our indoor children's playground (Taggart's Playground). We would highly recommend other churches to consider partnering with Convoy of Hope!

Lastly, we participated in "I Love My City" for the first time in several years. On Sunday, April 28th, we met at the church for prayer and a breakfast potluck and then spent the remainder of our morning serving our community. We had several individuals stay at the church, where they potted flowers and wrote letters of encouragement to be delivered at a later time. We also had a team walking the river trail picking up trash. And we had our largest group spreading mulch on one of our elementary school's playgrounds. We believe that we become more like Jesus by living like him rather than simply learning about him, and this was a great opportunity to follow in the footsteps of our Lord and Savior, for whom service was a priority!

***"Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well" (1 Thessalonians 2:8).***

Jimmy Guffey



# SAGINAW FIRST



**Rev. John Obrecht (1/12)**

## Lead Pastor's Report

|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 1   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 27  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$68,720 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

The church family at Saginaw First worships together with a strength and grace that demonstrates the faithfulness of God. He continues to bless us with joyful worship and spiritual growth. Our attendance has held steady in spite of having serious health problems among our aging congregation. Also, we can report that giving levels have increased this year.

The strength of small churches can be seen in the warmth of fellowship and mutual encouragement they share. At Saginaw First, we see gentle assistance given in times of weakness along with the prayers which flow from hopeful hearts. We have seen God answer many of these prayers.

Throughout the year our church provides space for two recovery programs to hold their meetings, one on Tuesday and another group meets each Wednesday. As a result, we have three people who now attend our Sunday services that have accepted Jesus as their savior and Lord. Once again, we spent the month of December collecting a generous amount of food to support our local soup kitchen. They were very grateful.

We enjoy serving together in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus. We move forward in the trust that His Kingdom is ours to seek and to build.

John Obrecht, pastor



# SAGINAW JOURNEY OF GRACE

**Revs. Brent & Sharon Norman (10/20)**

## **Co-Lead Pastor's Report**



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 1   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 1   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 1   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 19  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$28,862 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Journey of Grace's continues to make focusing on the needs of the community a priority.

During this season, we were able to provide free parenting classes in partnership with a local community organization. The goal was to impact families by providing tools that equip parents and legal guardians to affect positive change in their children, households, and communities. We supported the area Walley Festival as another outdoor activity outreach opportunity.

We continue to explore viable opportunities to impact our community for Christ. Internally, our goal continues to be to love and support one another. We build community through consistent contact, gatherings in and out of the church, and discipleship.

These are some of the ways we have purposefully engaged the community and strengthened our congregation. This is an ongoing focus for Journey of Grace and we make it a priority.

In His Service,  
Pastors Brent and Sharon Norman and the Journey of Grace Family



# SAGINAW SWAN VALLEY

**Rev. James & JoAnne York (6/16)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 1   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | NO       | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | NO       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | NO       | Membership Total                         | 17  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$25,806 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

It is a strange thing to watch so many people pass away in such a short period of time. It seems that funerals is all I did the end of 2023. I celebrate with the departed that have joined their Lord and still work with those that mourn. Blessed are those that mourn has really become something to embrace here at this little place of worship as we try to figure out our place in the community and in God's plan for the greater area of Saginaw. I know one thing buildings and the closed in focus of self is long gone here, it is a new thing a out in the street thing that God is teaching us as health and other challenges are used by Satan as roadblocks to deter us from our task.

Rev. James M York Jr



# SAGINAW VALLEY

**Rev. Nathan & Amy Miller (11/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 3   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 3   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 5   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 183 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$252,786 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

This year we have ramped up our community outreach with adding a community garden. We have started with over 1,600 square feet of fenced garden with plans to expand as we find success and green thumbs. We have added a covered produce kiosk that will be community accessible when harvest time comes around. In addition to the garden we have planted 500 square feet of pumpkins in an unfenced part for the children of the community to be able to pick out a pumpkin to carve in October. We anticipate it producing close to 100 pumpkins.

We continue to focus our outreach endeavors on the children of our community, providing a place for Headstart and preschool, investing in VBS and FallFest activities, and continuing renovations of all our children ministry areas.



# ST JOHNS

**Rev. Lonnie & Carrie Kellogg (3/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 1   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 5   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 52  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$65,166 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

What fun we had in St. Johns this past year as we intentionally made efforts to spend significant time in making connections with each other and in our community. The goal has been to consistently let our neighbors know that one can find hope, healing and Jesus at St. Johns Naz.

As a result of receiving an Others Grant from the district, we were able to sponsor a block party and it was, by all accounts a great success. We connected with over 150 of our neighbors who jumped in the bouncy house, slid down the water slide, fellowshiped with hot dogs, popcorn and slushies. It really was great day being with the community. Spring boarding from there, we sponsored a fall festival again for our neighborhood and as a result, a family has begun to be part of the church. Another important event of the year was "I Love My City". This year we partnered with the city to clean-up the Train Depot and pavilion to be used for the summer season. Needless to say, city hall was very grateful for our service to the city of St. Johns.

This past spring, we invited the community to be part of an Easter pancake breakfast. The Pancake guy came flipped pancakes and the kids hunted for Easter eggs. It was a fun way to celebrate Jesus. Perhaps the most exciting part of the year was being able to baptize six people at Indian lake. The real fun part is that the ages ranged from seven to forty-seven. Good times! This year, St. Johns Naz sponsored two from the church to participate in mission trips this summer. In addition, we partnered with the local Girl Scouts, an ESL (English as a Second Language) group, a youth leadership organization for young woman and the district 28 Special Olympics team- all of which use our building for projects and meetings.

Finally, we continue to focus on making St. Johns Naz a place that is welcoming, warm and inviting to those who searching for something that only Jesus can provide. We recognize that while we can't "save" people from their brokenness, we certainly can introduce them to someone who can: Jesus.

Again, life is good here at St. Johns Naz.

Pastor Lonnie and Carrie Kellogg



# ST LOUIS Restoration 58:12

**Revs. Jacob & Allison Gregory (6/14)  
Rev. Nathan & Jennifer Workman (6/20)**

## Co- Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 6   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | NO       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 27  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$92,573 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

We have, as a church, realized that we have become a praying force for many corners of our small county. It seems almost weekly that we have a request coming through a congregational member from someone who is not an attender. And they almost always say the same thing, "I know that your church is a constant prayer force for anyone who asks." This kind of faithful consistency to our community isn't the kind of thing that looks good on end of year reports & number sheets, but it's the best way we know to show what it means to be sons & daughters of God. Our connection to one another continues to be a strong point, it almost must be this way in a small church. So we often gather around the table for meals together. Each Sunday morning, before the worship & teaching time, we have an informal brunch discussion; and twice a month on Wednesdays we gather for dinner with any that can attend. No programming for that Wednesday gathering. Just the conversation of navigating life and trying to remain human in the midst of this life. And that has been the consistent message for and from us as a church; connecting our humanity with the divinity of God and seeking His grace through it all while trying to demonstrate that same grace to others.

This life of grace shows up in how the church body continues to welcome & love-well the shelter guests that join us each Sunday. Gratiot County Hope House is a primary focus of our church body as the shelter is housed in the church building; so we have a regular & consistent connection to the guests. Each week some of the guests make their way into the formal parts of our services. This church body has consistently welcomed them as their own. So much so that one recent guest, as she found sustainable housing and moved out of the shelter said that she doesn't know where she'd be without her "church family" [her words].

This is what it means to be one who welcomes the widow, the orphan, the homeless, the refugee, the one who has nothing. The truth is, it's pretty tough to build a church on this kind of population. However, we're called not to be successful, but called to be faithful. So faithful we shall be.



# SPARTA

**Rev. Tyler & Liz Hubbell (9/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 5   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 7   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 11  |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 137 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$371,846 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

### Michigan District Report – 2024

Sparta Naz is grabbing hold of the phrase, “bless our community.” Over the past year, we have been diligently trying to stretch ourselves into our community in meaningful ways with the presence of Christ. There are a few noteworthy efforts that are gaining some ground as we intentionally look outside of our walls.

First, we have a group called “Disciple Builders” that is working within our community to repair homes and do tasks that people can’t afford to do or are not able to do themselves. These projects are done for free, and each person that is helped by Disciple Builders is prayed for and connected with. So far, we have installed siding on a shed, repaired sub-floor, fixed plumbing, cleaned up a camp, delivered trash from a mobile home community to the village clean up days, and installed a wheelchair ramp. And the requests for work to be done just keep coming in. This has been a very meaningful ministry to connect with our community and provide intentional service as the hands and feet of Jesus.

In our local elementary school, we are starting a partnership with Kids Hope USA in which we will be participating in one to one mentoring with Kindergarten through 2nd graders weekly. Again, this is a step outside of our walls and into the community of children at Ridgeview elementary. Our mentors are currently going through training, and will begin mentoring in the fall.

The last new effort to get out into our community is the adoption of a dog park downtown. As it is, this dog park doesn’t have the greatest reputation for being maintained. And so in an effort to bless our community and to create relationships with those that frequent the dog park, we have decided to keep it up and improve it. This ministry is just getting off the ground as well.

Overall, we are excited about the ways that God is moving at Sparta Naz. We are training our eyes to see our community and we are using our hands and feet to become a blessing to our community by the grace of God. We hope and pray that through our willingness to be a blessing to our community, our community will come to know Jesus.



# SPRING ARBOR

**Rev. Lonny Bumgardner (11/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO        | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 2   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 7   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 78  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$170,002 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

It has been a great year to serve the Lord in Spring Arbor!

We took four months where our leadership evaluated and focused on our mission and values. We met, prayed and sought God's direction and are being led in some new exciting ways.

Spring Arbor Naz is a church that loves and God has called us to love the young families of our community. We are learning to love in incarnational, relational and missional ways.

What we mean when we use those terms is we will BE, DO and GO Love. In order for SA Naz to BE Love, we have to know Love and this Love is manifest in Jesus. We have to be a transformed church and show it through our lives. Many have yielded those things the Lord has revealed to continue to grow in holiness of heart and mind.

In order for SA Naz to DO Love, we have to be a community shaped by this Love and live it out together. We learn together, growing as disciples and we do life together, experiencing the joys and griefs of our journeys. We have grown through classes and worship, retreats and events. Our youth and kids ministries continue to learn from faithful teaching of the Scriptures and leaders who walk alongside them. We have had new babies born and dedicated to the Lord. The congregation has once again committed to do their part to help parents lead these precious ones in the way they should go.

In order for SA Naz to GO Love, we share Love to our community and world with our resources and care. The Helping Hands Pantry and Fresh Food Friday program has been a wonderful way to connect with our neighbors. We have also sent some to serve the world in the Dominican Republic and Guatemala.

I am excited for the new year with some creative and fun ways for SA Naz to BE, DO and GO Love in the name of Jesus!

Respectfully submitted,  
Lonny Bumgardner



# STURGIS

**Rev. Bill & Rhonda Couchenour (9/22)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 4   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 3   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 1   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 263 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$250,422 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Greetings from Sturgis Church of the Nazarene

We have had a good year. We have spent much time in prayer. We have prayed for direction, revival, healings, evangelism, discipleship and participated in "Let's Go Action Steps". We have added Sunday School classes, moving from 2 to 5 classes. We have added Wednesday youth group and Caravan. We had VBS, which is the first one since covid. We had revival services with Rev. Jimmy Dell. It was a time of drawing close to God's leading, with a lot of laughter. Our board grew in servant leadership. We elected an NDI president and recently an NYI president. We returned to a more traditional style of leading. This year we participated in the Sturgis Fest Family night providing children's games and free bottles of water. In the fall we went to the Anchor of Hope event bringing back supplies to reach out to our community. We gave supplies to our High School sports teams, a local cleaning business, and some families. In the fall we hired Rev. Jesse Sibert as our assistant pastor. He has led new ministries for our church. He has been instrumental in getting our web page up. He has started a Cares Ministry, sending cards, making phone calls, and helping with other needs. He has visited local businesses and offered prayer for them and led a prayer walk around one of our public schools. My focus has been to build up the church, reach out to young people and to focus on witnessing. God has blessed our year.

May God continue to bless our Michigan District and the Church of the Nazarene.

Pastor Bill Couchenour, Sturgis Church of the Nazarene



# SUMNER CENTER

**Rev. John & Deb Wright**  
**Lead Pastor's Report**



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 0   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 21  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$65,321 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Sumner Center is excited to welcome Rev. John and Deb Wright to be their lead pastor. The Wrights will be installed on Sunday, August 4th.



# THREE RIVERS

**Rev. Rich & Tracey Saunders (6/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 1   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 5   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 10  |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 6   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 266 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$371,916 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

TRNaz (Three Rivers Church of the Nazarene) continues to be a place where the community is welcome in, as well as a place where people are, outwardly, community minded. One of the specific ways that we have reached out to our community beyond our "church doors" is by opening our doors to the needs of families in crisis who need a place to meet, who have been legally separated, so that, hopefully, parent and child (or parents and children) can be reconciled back to one another. We host "supervised visits," semi-regularly (as caseworkers have need) here at TRNaz with the hope of providing a safe space, as well as a time of intercessory praying, for ALL those who come.

A second specific way that we have reached out to our community beyond our "church doors" is through the ongoing reach of our Foster Care Closet, Ellie's Closet. It has become an extremely useful resource (sadly), that helps to meet the immediate and long-term needs of foster children and their Foster Care family. We are sad the need is so high, but we are grateful to be able to stand in a gap and show them ALL unconditional love.

A third specific way that TRNaz continues to reach out to the community beyond our "church doors" is through our BAB Fund (Be A Blessing Fund). The fund was created and setup, at the beginning of 2020, for the sole purpose of meeting financial needs of people in our community, wherever and whatever they may be, who find themselves unable to get help elsewhere or provide for themselves. The BAB Funds aim is that if there is a need, and we have money available, we are blessed to be a blessing to meet that need. Working with our County agencies, as well as other churches, we seek to provide help for people of the community in the best way that we can. To date, we are averaging just about \$20,000 in giving each year, but it's not WE who gets the credit or the glory for what has been accomplished. God is blessing us, and the people who give so faithfully to this fund (both inside and outside our own church family), and if we give, because He gave (no strings attached), we believe He will continue to make His way through this funds impact.

Lastly, our church partners with other churches in the Three Rivers Community area to provide a dinner meal, once or twice a week, for ANYONE who chooses to come and eat. The serving doesn't take place at our church, but at a local church IN town so that access is as reasonable as possible. Many from our church family have served at the "Soup Pot," happily greeting and caring for the folks who come. It's much more than just providing food though. Friendly greetings and good conversations are also part of what makes the impact positive and God-honoring. He loves the people who come, and so do we!!!

We created a mission statement many years ago and it continues to be our driving directive, empowered by the Holy Spirit who continues to make it relevant, "Consistently sharing the love of Jesus." We take this mission very seriously! Jesus loves us, and ALL, but chooses to make use of us in sharing it with the world. We, however, take no credit and no glory for any of the good that's done. If it weren't for Jesus, who gave us the GREATEST Good possible, we'd never possess a heart's desire to love people like Him.

Every Sunday we pray, "Father, we ask for nothing more than You can give, but... we ask for nothing less." May God be glorified always, and may we stay surrendered, and so made useful, to how He chooses to give to us and through us!!!

Pastor Rich Saunders, Lead Pastor, TRNaz (Three Rivers Church of the Nazarene)



# VICKSBURG CHAPNAZ

**Revs. Brian & Ashley Robbins (1/24)**

## Co-Lead Pastor's Report



|   |           |  |     |
|---|-----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES       | Number of New Believers                  | 7   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES       | Number of Baptisms                       | 8   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 2   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES       | Membership Total                         | 192 |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$523,311 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Greetings MID Family!

As we begin this annual report on behalf of our shared leadership team here at ChapNaz, we are overwhelmed with gratitude and thankfulness for our faith community. Several quick months have flown by since accepting our call as co-lead pastors here in Vicksburg, MI. We are pleased to announce that this new model of leadership for our family of faith has been warmly received. Following our installation service at the beginning of the year, we have been on a journey through the gospel of Mark, working our way through this holy text story by story, Sunday after Sunday. This rhythmic, narrating beat has set the foundation in our invitation to follow Jesus, to become like Jesus, and to do the things that Jesus did. We are continually reimagining our own stories into the broader narrative of God's story. This has been transformative for us.

As a local church body, we remain faithfully committed to serve within our immediate context. Over the past year, our ChapNaz *Clothes Closet* volunteers have collected, washed, and organized thousands of donations in order to clothe hundreds of families and children within the surrounding Vicksburg area. In fact, should your broader church family necessitate clothing donations of any kind, please don't hesitate to contact our team. Additionally, our participation in *Kid's HOPE* at Indian Lake Elementary School continues to foster meaningful relationships and positive outcomes. Several of our congregants participate weekly in this youth mentorship program planted in a public school less than one mile from our church building.

Finally, we are ecstatic to announce Pastor Gretchen Hand as the newest member of our leadership team! Our children's ministry area continues to experience wonderful growth and we could not be more excited to have this seasoned pastor serving our youngest ambassadors for Christ.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pastors Ashley and Brian Robbins



# WHITE PIGEON LIGHTHOUSE

**Rev. Dan Griffes (11/16)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | NO       | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 3   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | NO       | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 13  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$25,104 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Lighthouse COTN  
A Highways and Byways COTN

Gideon's army continues waging spiritual war in the highways and byways of White Pigeon. Our battlefields includes: Free Store 3 days a week (assisted by other's grant this year), Saturday night free movies and popcorn, support of a local CMA motorcycle ministry, free individual and family counseling, weekly Facebook posting of sermons, and active encouragement of individual one on one engagement in the workplace, grocery store, and any place the Holy Spirit connects us with people. We participate in community activities like White Pigeon Days, have a positively engaged relationship with community leadership, and are actively supporting our Mennonite friends in the establishment of an after school youth center. We recently partnered with the Mennonites to canvas our community with regular ongoing prayer walks. We are blessed with several new mature Christians called by the Holy Spirit to actively support our ministry with evangelism, and discipleship of numerous new and pre-Christians. Most all of our people are active in ministry in the community and we are seeing physical, relational, financial, and, most importantly, spiritual miracles.

The most exciting and important reality is our transition from a consumer church ministering by, and to, the flesh, into a spiritual warrior church ministering by the Spirit. (Romans 8:1-11)



# WILLIAMSTON

**Rev. Sam & Anna Stone (8/96)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



|   |          |  |     |
|---|----------|--|-----|
| All Budgets Paid In Full                | YES      | Number Called to Ministry (this year)    | 0   |
| Participation in World Evang. Fund      | YES      | Number of New Believers                  | 4   |
| Participation in NBUSA                  | YES      | Number of Baptisms                       | 0   |
| Participation in ONU Allocation         | YES      | Number of New Nazarenes                  | 0   |
| Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations | YES      | Membership Total                         | 16  |
| Raised for all Purposes                 | \$16,353 | Participated in Compassionate Ministries | YES |

Pastor's Report from Pastor Samuel A. Stone III,

It is my great privilege to give my 27<sup>th</sup> report to this District Assembly from Williamston Church of the Nazarene. We have been faithfully preaching Holiness and Righteousness locally, in our surrounding community, around the world, and living it out in our lives.

God has been very good to us. We have seen ministries continue this year that are growing. New ministries that have been developed and are also growing. We are looking forward to what our Lord will be leading us to this next year.

We have been meeting weekly on Sunday afternoons at Marsh Pointe Retirement Apartments averaging 5-9 in attendance. Many of the followers here have a hunger for seeing God to move in this facility and even beyond. At this ministry, we have started a discipleship Bible Study each week. We started with 2 meeting weekly, but has grown to 5. We see that interest in this ministry is growing constantly.

We have been leaders in the Lansing Area and Zone Youth and have and have activities this past year and have scheduled even more for this coming year. We are seeing interest from churches that have been part of this ministry in the past. But in the past few years were not able to be a part of this ministry. These churches are now wanting to see their youth come together with others and share in these activities.

The FaceBook ministry that we started by necessity because of the pandemic, is growing. Reaching many around the world. Some call me their online pastor. In the pages of this ministry, we can have a dozen or more that contact us. I know from contacting others, that there are many more that are reached beyond this.

We are looking forward, as mentioned, to what our Lord has in store for us as we build His Kingdom and see His Kingdom being built.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Samuel A. Stone III  
 Pastor of Williamston Church of the Nazarene

The background of the entire advertisement is a photograph of a university campus. In the foreground, a group of four students is gathered on a brick-paved path, talking and smiling. One student is wearing a green jacket and a grey beanie, another is wearing a black jacket and a blue backpack, and two others are wearing a floral shirt and a pink shirt with a blue backpack. In the background, a paved walkway leads through a green lawn with trees, and two more students are walking away. The overall atmosphere is bright and welcoming.

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